

Merrillvue

MORE

Than ever before



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MORE

Than ever before



Merrillvue - 1993

Merrillville High
School

276 East 68th Place
Merrillville, Indiana
46410

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Sock it to me!

Abigail Igarta, junior, takes a pie to the face during half-time festivities at a basketball game. The seniors won the spirit link contest against the juniors. A winning class officer was then able to throw a pie in the face of the losing class officer's face.

MORE

Than ever before

Well we came back to another year, a year to be filled with triumph and defeat, heartache and happiness. As we walked the halls of our newly renovated school we realized this is not going to be a typical year. We realized *more than ever before* this was going to be our year.

Coming back to our newly renovated school was an experience itself. *Before* school had started there were rumors that we were going to return to a school with no lockers. To our surprise there were *more* lockers but there were also *more* students to fill those lockers.

Continues on next page



Hi Mom, I'm Santa Claus!
Molly Penquite, sophomore, helps Student Government prepare for the distribution of Christmas gifts to needy children in the area. This drive is an annual event for the students to help out less fortunate children. Honor Society and Student Government work together to pull this event off. Homerooms sponsor a child.

Don't anybody move it is picture perfect!
The MHS band shows off their talent to the fans at the half-time show during football season. The band was lead by Tammy Robinson, senior drum major, and Mary Clay, the band director.



Wiggle just a little more
The cast of the Revue performs their closing number to the song Age of Aquarius. The theme of the Revue was Radio Days: Then and Now. Many of the acts were from different eras of radio, including the seventies. Many of the students dressed as though they were living in the seventies to make it seem more life like.

MORE

Than ever before

As we roamed our new halls we were intrigued by what we found. There were *more* facilities at our fingertips; *more* gyms to work on our bodies, *more* labrooms to improve our science skills, *more* classrooms so that we could be *more* comfortable, *more* desks to accommodate the increase of students, and even *more* office space for the administration, secretaries and teachers.

With all of this new to us, we still had a common goal to learn. *More than ever before* this goal was in reach due to the new facilities. Not only were we able to learn *more* but we were able to play *more*.

• Kimberly Richardson •



We finally made it to Broadway. Cathy Navarro, junior and Chuck Stapinski, senior, sing in a humorous way to each other during the Revue. Their act was one of the many comedies portrayed during the night.



We are #1! Football fans show their spirit as they cheer their team to victory. The football team had an undefeated record in regular season. The team showed their strength by going all the way to semi-state in Fort Wayne.

I have to be picture perfect. Coach Lori Steele prepares to kiss the pig. Coach Steele was the lucky winner of the kiss the pig contest. Students voted for the teacher that they thought should have to kiss a pig. The days before the actual event Coach Steele and Coach Wimmer were in competition. Each trying to persuade the student body to vote for the other.





ONE *More time*

We came back to school *one more time* to see our friends and to learn *more* looking to our future. *One more time* we walk the halls, crowd the cafeteria, and sit quietly in class. Once *more* we participate in the extra-curricular activities we enjoy, play the sports for which we've spent hours training, and show our support for our school and community. After all, one day not so far away, we may look back and wish we could do it all *one more time*.

Im gonna pump you up!
Mike Schmid, junior, lift weights after school in the new weightroom. The weightroom is just one of the new wellness facilities that are available for the student body and staff to use. The wellness facilities opened up to students and faculty after the first of the year.

WORK AND DETERMINATION

By: Alan Hepp

Every year, the wheels of the fall play slowly begin to grind. Students, many of them in Drama Club, audition for the numerous parts and positions available. Some people do it because their friends do. When asked why he tried out for the play, Jesse Stoner, senior, stated, "Some of my friends were trying out and I have always had a lot of fun with the plays." For Kelly Johnson, senior, the reason was a little different. "I love the theater and I want to be as involved as I can. When I first started working on the stage I got addicted. I could never give it up."

Emotions run high during the audition period. "I was nervous," said Angie Corea. These fledgling actors risk being rejected, but to them, the reward is well worth the risk. "I was happy that I got the part I did because this is my first play that actually has lines." Not every person gets the part that he wants, because there is a limited supply of them. Nevertheless, some of these

students still play a part.

In order to achieve success at any endeavor, one must practice. Practice for *You Can't Take It With You* ran as long as 5 hours. "The director, Mr. Owens, demands that you be there for the entire practice and they usually last from 3:00 to 7:00, and practices can run more than that," Stoner stated. So actors and actresses with small parts need to find other ways to fill the practice time. Corea said "I don't have a big part so most of the time I do my homework or just talk with the other cast members. When I am on stage to practice (about 30 minutes) we just run the scene and act it all out."

Some of the cast members just play around backstage while they wait to run through their scenes, but others take a more serious approach. Johnson states, "We practice our blocking and lines. We must become our character and say each line like our character would, not like we would. Since the play is a comedy, we must

**Students
work their
way towards
Broadway,
as they
produce the
Fall Play.**

be extra careful with our timing."

In plays, much like Presidential debates, the lines are memorized and polished in order to give a professional appearance. Actors and actresses study their lines both in and out of school because everyone knows that one of the most embarrassing things that can happen to a person is when he messes up in front of a large group of people. If an actor can make an innocent mistake and be the subject of numerous jokes and laughs, then why does he do it? Corea replied, "It's fun to act and the cast members are fun to be with."

There are several reasons that people become actors and actresses. In general, they like the people that they work with. Johnson embodied the majority of actors when she said, "The best thing about the play is the joy of producing a good performance. The cast becomes a family and you develop inside jokes that keep you laughing forever."





I've fallen and I can't get up!
Kelly Johnson, senior, helps Jenny Verbik, senior, up from a fall during the fall play. The play took place in the Reinhart Auditorium on November 13 and 14.

I feel the spirit around us!
Ryan Seiberling, junior, holds hands with Dave Greenberg, junior, in prayer during a silent in "You Can't Take it with You." Seiberling played one of the most important characters.



Pirate Poner

"The best thing about the play is the joy of producing a good performance. The cast becomes a family and you develop inside jokes that keep you laughing forever."

Kelly Johnson,
senior

Take your bow, please David Joseforsky, senior, thanks Coach Wimmer after receiving the Mr. Football for 1992 season. The award is presented annually at half-time of the Homecoming game. Joseforsky was a major contribution to the teams undefeated record.

ROCK THE BOAT

By Kimberly Richardson

What do you get when you take two Allisons, two Erins, and a Hope? The 1992 Football Homecoming Court.

The week of September 21-25 was Homecoming. Spirit week alters the pace of school for five days as classes compete against each other to show who is best. The week began as every Homecoming at MHS does. Student Government decided on a theme and what the spirit days were for Spirit Week.

"Our theme this year is *Rock the Boat*. Spirit days are Monday *Pajama Day*; Tuesday, *Hat Day*; Wednesday, *Crazy Do Day*; Thursday, *Class Colors*; and Friday, *Purple and White*, of course," said

Chuck Stapinski, senior.

Each day was a spirit point event for the class competition. This allowed the seniors to pull ahead in the spirit point competition.

At the beginning of the week, each senior homeroom selected two girls for Homecoming Court. Once this list was completed, the entire school voted for the girl they thought should be Homecoming Queen. The girl with the most votes would be crowned Homecoming Queen during half-time of the football game against Valparaiso on Friday night.

At the beginning of the week, each class and club which was building a float was hard at work. First, officers have to think of an

The wild ones come out to show their school spirit

idea which goes along with the Homecoming theme. Then supplies and people must be assembled in a secure place to keep the float from being sabotaged by a rival class. Finally, the building begins and club members must get their float finished in time for the judging.

Tradition dictates that each class to spend the night before the parade guarding its float. Daring raids cause damage to floats built by other classes in order to make you look the best.

On the eve of Homecoming the annual parade is held at 4 p.m. on Broadway. Following the float judging festivities, the Powder Puff games began at



Continued on page 12



We've won again!
The senior class shows their team and school spirit as they run off the field after their victory over the juniors with a score of 22 to 7. The seniors have an undefeated record in Powder Puff. Each year many girls come out and play football as part of the Homecoming festivities.

Hold still and smile pretty!
Erin O'Deen, Allison Krysa, Allison Daiton and Erin Jones, seniors, stand with Homecoming Queen Hope Jusko, senior. The crowning of the queen is one of the Homecoming festivities. The crowning takes place during half-time of the football game. This year's foe was Valparaiso.

Come around this way and... Juniors listen carefully as their coach, Don Januszewski, tells them what their next strategy against the seniors will be. The seniors beat the juniors during the held on Thursday during Homecoming.

ROCK THE BOAT

The wild ones come out to show their school spirit

Demaree Stadium.

Teams practiced for hours in order to defend their class honor. The freshmen played the sophomores and the juniors were defeated by the seniors. The chance to play in Demaree Stadium added to the excitement for the girls.

The day dawns -- after a week of traditional spirit activities, Homecoming is finally here. For members of the Homecoming Court, Alison Dainton, Erin Jones, Hope Jusko, Allison Krysa, and Erin O'Deen, it was a day of waiting and wondering.

For the football team it

was a day to gear up for the Valparaiso Vikings and a conference game.

At the beginning of the half-time festivities, Dave Joseforsky was named Mr. Football for 1992, an award voted on by his teammates. He was presented with a football by Coach Rick Wimmer. The team then headed for the locker room as the crowning ceremony began.

After a show presented by the band, pom-pons, and flag corps, the serious business of crowning the queen begins. After each of the members of the court was introduced, Hope Jusko

was crowned Homecoming Queen.

With a victory over the Vikings, interest turned to the Homecoming dance which was titled "Wonderful Tonight." The cafeteria was decorated in black and silver. Decorations were planned by Abigail Igarta, junior class president and Wilfred Vivo, junior class treasurer.

The week the students had so anticipated was over. The float building, cheering during a football game, and getting ready for a dance had occupied everyone's thoughts. Now all that remains is the memories.





Catch me if you can!
Breaking away from his opponent, Zac Wells, senior, runs for a touchdown. The opponent, Valparaiso, could not keep up with his speed and maneuverability.



La cucaracha!
Showing his school spirit and just how crazy spirit week can sometimes get at Homecoming, Mark Hovanec, senior, poses with his hat. Crazy hat day is just one of the five days of spirit week. Each day has a different theme. If students participate they earn spirit points for their class.

Please don't squeeze the Pirates!
Diane Jagiela, Jen Heminger, and Linda Polomchak, seniors, show off the senior class float. The seniors beat out the other classes. The theme of Homecoming was "Tee-pee the Indians."

Oh my gosh I'm queen!
Allison Krysa, senior, stands in amazement as she received the news of being crowned Homecoming Queen. Each class selects three member on the court the winners are the Queen and Princesses.



Pirate Ponder

I think it was one of the best gmaes of the season. There were a lot of things going on that night . The band was playing, the crowd was rowdy, and the team was playing hard. There was a big sense of school spirit.


Kari Dombrowsky, sophomore



Im too sexy for my pants.
As the other participants look on Grer Thiros, senior, stares in amazement after being voted on by fellow students as the Senior with the Sexiest Legs. At lunches prior to the event, students put monay in the can of the guy they thought had the sexist legs.

Vroom! Vroom! Vroom!
Cynthia Ramirez and Mark Jones, sophomores, tug thier class float along th gym floor during halftime of the Homecoming game. The sophomores tied with the freshman for second place. The Pirates defeated the Indians






Students show
they can
Tee-Pee the
Indians
at Basketball
Homecoming


PROUD OF SCHOOL SPIRIT

By: Tom Gayda



What do you get when you mix three pretty princesses, a gorgeous queen, a pair of hot, sexy legs, four floats covered in toilet paper, and a bunch of tall guys? Why none other than Merrillville's basketball homecoming, of course.

The Portage Indians came to Merrillville in a Duneland Conference match in hopes to upset the Pirates. Portage didn't stand a chance, with all the Pirate fans packing the gym in the "Teepee the Indians" homecoming. The Indian's only hope was to set the gym on fire, which didn't happen.



Not to diminish the game itself, but many of the fans came to see the homecoming court and the announcement of the senior guy with the sexiest legs. This excitement carried on over to the game, which had an effect on the players.

"Well, I would have liked

to have seen the place packed every weekend. I would have liked to see people hang from the rafters, but I think the support was good, but it could have been better," commented John Mishorich, senior basketball player.

Fans didn't get a moment to rest with all the action going on. Cheerleaders are one of the main reasons why.

Kari Dombrowsky, sophomore cheerleader, stated, "I think it was one of the best games of the season. There were a lot of things going on that night. The band was playing, the crowd was rowdy, and the team was playing hard. There was a big sense of school spirit."

Most players and fans agree, the homecoming game was an experience. It could have been even more exciting according to some people at least.

"I think our administration puts too many restrictions on our fans. They are supposed to come and go crazy, but when they do they get in trouble. Look at the major colleges, their students do the same things our student body does, but they don't get detention. Until the administration changes, the fan support won't change," concludes Mishorich.

A fan agrees, too. "I felt it was a waste to have the princesses jaunt around at halftime. The game and the halftime show were just plain boring. "Hoosier Hysteria" just didn't happen until the East Chicago game," says John Dulla, senior fan.

There are many more homecomings to come, but Merrillville against Portage may have just set the standard of all homecomings to come.



Before and after

The above photo was taken in the Spring of '92 when our \$5.5 million was still under construction. During the summer there was much talk about it not being ready to begin the '92 fall season. On August 29, 5,400 fans crowded into the new Demaree stadium to cheer the Pirates on to victory against Crown Point. The occasion was marked by an opening ceremony dedicating the stadium to Coach Dick Demaree. The only time the stadium was filled to its 7000 seating capacity was the Merrillville-Hobart game. There were over 10,000 tickets sold.

"I had the greatest respect for every young man who played for me--and there were hundreds. I have been blessed. I've had a lot of good breaks. The good Lord has smiled on me." These are the words of Coach Dick Demaree, who came to Merrillville High School in 1946 to teach social studies and coach football. Twenty-seven years and 159 victories later coach Demaree retired from coaching.

Coach took a very active part in fund raising in order to help build the first MHS football field in 1948, which was located just to the east of what is now Pierce Junior High School. The second field was built by Coach Demaree and several faculty members in 1963 at the present site of the high and was dedicated and named Demaree Field in 1966.

Coach Demaree boasts of coaching many great athletes and in particular takes pride in his all-stars, Dan Molchan ('49), Pete Uremovich ('62), Al Schmidt and George Uremovich ('64),

Kirk Kuzmiz and Wally Prochno ('71), Ken Dyke and Bob Uremovich ('73), and Bill Tharp ('74). Coach is also quick to mention Al Schmidt, who played on the 1967 Indiana University Rose Bowl team, George Uremovich, who is among the top 10 scorers and ground gainers at the University of Illinois, Wayne Monroe, voted MVP at Walbush College in '69, and Ken Dyke who started on defense for Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl in 1977 when Joe Montana was quarterbacking. Coach Demaree had 80 players make various all-conference and all-area teams and had 24 athletes who played collegiate football. Dick also sports a big grin when he talks about coaching he and his wife Anner's three sons, Rich Jr., David, and Douglas.

Coach Demaree was born in Morris, Illinois and went to high school in Racine, Wisconsin. In 1937 Dick received his B.S. degree in education from Northwestern University,

where he participated in three sports. He coached at Morton Grove, Illinois and Manchester, Ohio, before coming to Merrillville.

Dick Demaree's honors include: Induction to the Indiana Football Hall of Fame in 1976, a 1987 inductee into MHS Coaches Hall of Fame, Gary Old Timers Leadership Award, Optimist Club Appreciation Award for Teaching and Coaching.

The newly constructed Merrillville football field proudly bares the name DEMAREE STADIUM and will be the new home of the "Pirates". Our players will wear the purple and white and continue to work hard to continue the fine football tradition Coach Demaree started in 1946.

Coach Demaree--The Merrillville community and alumni thank you for being a great educator and one of the finest men in the history of our town. We dedicate the new stadium in your name with honor and pride.

Debut of
MHS 'Field of
Dreams' draws
5,400 fans
to first game

STADIUM UNVEILED AT DEDICATION

By: Kimberly Richardson

For many students, athletes, administrators, and residents of the the community the opening of the football season on Saturday, August 29, 1992 was special. That was the night the new Demaree Stadium was unveiled with a 28-6 win over conference rival Crown Point.

5,400 of the 7,000 seats were filled when athletic director Janis Qualizza yelled to the crowd, "Merrillville, tell me, do you like it?" The crowd yelled back "Yeah!"

The stadium is more than just the seats. Principal

Daniel C. Rapacz commented, "Many people don't realize that there's really two buildings out there. We have underground facilities. There are locker rooms, a weight room, a viewing room, a laundry room. There's even a room for the band."

To commemorate the occasion, retired music teacher Frank Meltzer returned to lead the band in the school song and the "Star Spangled Banner."

Coach Richard Demaree and his wife Honor took part in the dedication of the multi-

million dollar state-of-the-art stadium which bears his name.

Demaree was presented with a 1992 commemorative football by team captains Dave Joseforsky, Zac Wells, and Jamel Williams.

A fireworks display after the football game was also a part of the dedication ceremony.

Head coach Rick Wimmer said the stadium is a great facility. He added, "I'm happy to be in a place like this, happy to have a home game after a couple years. It's tremendous for us."

John Mishorich, senior class president and football player, described playing in the new stadium for the first time. He said, "I think it's really great because the pride has come back in Merrillville sports. There were 1,000 students, more than at any other time. It carries over on the field and gives us something else to play for."

Home at last
Students in the student section enjoy the freedom of having their own place to be. The Pirate fans contributed to the success of the football team all season.



Pirate Power

"I think in a good relationship the two people involved don't hold each other back from being with their friends."

Jim Wirtes,
senior



Do you have the answer?
Junior Brien Delich helps Cindy Brown, junior with her homework. Couples often help each other with homework they don't understand.

Dancing to a slow song.
Seniors George Burke and Jenny Collie sway to the music at the Christmas dance. Being part of a relationship means knowing you have a date for all of the big events.





PLAYING THE DATING GAME

By Lynn Holley

Every teenage girl always dreams of having a boyfriend like they see in the movies. For some this dream may come true but for others, this may not come true. When entering high school, people meet new and interesting people. These new people become close friends and stay friends throughout their high school years. High school is the start of dating and different feelings for others.

When these two people start going out on a regular basis, something happens between them and they start a long and serious relationship. Now the two friends are more than just friends. They are committed to one another.

"If two people have the right feeling for one another," said Fred Hong, senior, "then it's okay to maintain such a bond."

Julie Cole, junior, said, "When I'm involved with someone that I really love and care for and the guy feels the same way and treats me with the respect and in return I give it back. In a relationship the couple should be faithful to one another and truthful."

"Two people who like

each other a lot, have fun together, trust each other, and just like being together," said Jim Wirtes, senior. "I think in a good relationship the two people involved don't hold each other back from being with their friends."

With AIDS being a big problem in America today, more and more teenagers are waiting to get involved in a sexual relationship. There is more of a risk of getting AIDS than getting pregnant. Teenagers are more scared of getting AIDS than anything else.

"Yes, the couple usually feels that sex might bring them closer to one another, but in fact most of the time it brings them farther apart," said Cole. "If a couple gets involved with sex too early in a relationship, they should sit down and talk about it to see what's right and what the consequences could be and if they are both ready to deal with it."

"I suppose there are less couples who become active," said Hong. "Fear of kids, diseases, and viruses. But then again, modern technology."

In some relationships, the couples are separated

**Why do we
put up with
relationships
the way the
we do ?**

by where they go to school. Sometimes these relationships work out and other times they don't. Some people feel it's better to date someone else from another school and others don't think so.

"It doesn't really matter if the girl goes to the same school or not," said Josh Cantwell, senior. "It adds more trust in the relationship if they go to different schools."

"You could get sick of a person if you see them every single day whether you want to or not," said Cyndi Meeks, senior.

"I don't think it really matters where people go to school," said Wirtes. "When people are able to drive to each other's house, they can see as much of each other as they want and they don't have to worry where they go to school."

"Many times long relationships and long distance relationships work out and other times they don't. The two people involved in a relationship have to learn to trust each other and give each other time and space. When two people care for one another, they give the other person what they want.

WORKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

By: Alan Hepp

Well, the impossible has happened...Bill Clinton is President. With the economy in a tailspin, finding jobs can be next to impossible. After all, unemployment is a staggering 7%, and all of the leading economic indicators are plummeting. But wait, according to Tina Sikora, senior, "It wasn't really hard (to find a job), you just have to be willing to look." Sikora is currently employed at Round the Clock as a waitress. Josh Schaefer, another senior at Merrillville agrees. "It's not hard at all, McDonalds always hires." However, Daniel Folz, an employee of Elliot Truck & Trailer Repair, disagrees. "It seems like all of the jobs are going across the border."

Some students have unusual reasons for getting jobs. Diane Jagelia, senior, stated, "I was either grounded the whole summer, or I had to get a job. They (Burger King) were the first place that called back. I've worked there almost two years." This situation is simi-

lar to many high school students. The "Get a job or be grounded the whole summer!" speech by parents is a highly effective method of forcing students to get jobs.

If the economy is so terrible then why do so many high school students obtain employment? Do they work because the money crunch is terrible? Not really. Of course there are exceptions, but for the most part, students work for themselves. "I work so I can have extra money now and while I am in college. I save a lot of it for college, spring break, & other things. With the rest, I buy clothes, or CD's," noted Sikora.

The economy is an issue to some students. When asked how long he plans to work, Folz replied, "For as long as I can or until Bill Clinton sends my job to Mexico."

As far as the length of time that a high school student should work, Mr. Sherm Lewis, Guidance Counselor, feels, "No more than 15 hours per week,

Students learn the hard lesson of earning a living in a trouble-some economy

and these hours should be on weekends as often as possible."

Everyone agrees that there are both positives and negatives to every issue, and work is no different. Mr. Drew Furuness, Guidance Counselor offers his opinion on the subject of high school employment: "Working provides some basic values: responsibility, punctuality, cooperation, money, etc. The negatives would be if it conflicts with school." Mrs. Maryanne Battistini, Guidance Counselor, added another negative. "Working during weekends is probably the most desirable kind of work, but it could prevent some students from participating in extra curriculars they might enjoy."

Whatever their reason is, high school students will continue to work and seem to have no problem finding jobs. When George Bush stated, "There is no Recession," maybe he was talking about high school students only.





Pirate Power

"I work so I can have extra money now and while I am in college. I save a lot of it for college, spring break, and other things.

With the rest, I buy clothes, or CD's."

Tina Sikora,
senior



Touching up the condiments.
Eric Guerrero, junior, works dining room on his shift at McDonalds off of 61st Avenue. Many students find jobs in fast food restaurants.

Filling an order.
Erin Janovsky, sophomore, looks for the little blue ice cream cake. Filling a customer's order is a large part of her job at Dairy Queen on Broadway.

What does that say?

Jason Parkis, Ryan Torres, and Vladimir Stevanovic check out a magazine in the hall before Kristen Corsaro's social studies class.

Are you ready to turn the page? Jenny Dainton, sophomore pretends to read along over her friend's shoulder. Time to read in class is rare, so friends help each other out if one forgot to bring her book.

Pirate Power


"I always try to be there to make my friends laugh and have a good time. I listen to their problems and give them helpful advice. It is also important to be honest with your friends."
Alison Dainton,
senior



You did it!

Jenika Redding, junior engages in a little friendly discussion with her friend at lunch time. It's always more fun to eat lunch with a friend.





Gossiping about a friend can kill your friendship.

One common flaw in many relationships is the gossip. A simple story can be stretched and twisted into a vicious pack of lies. The next thing you know everyone is talking about it.

"One reason friends gossip about each other is jealousy. They obviously admire something about you, so they try to bring you down to their level to make themselves feel better." Kathy Torres, senior.

Although gossip is a big problem among friendships, it's certainly not the only one.

"Eventually you and your friends find other interests, or just become too busy with school, work, or boyfriends. Sometimes there is just not much time to spend with friends." Colleen O'Sullivan, senior

Once a person realizes that because of several factors it isn't always easy to maintain a healthy friendship they find that they must put more effort into these relationships in order to keep them.

"The effort you put into a friendship seems to signify how much that friend actually means to you. If more people would put more effort into friendships, ev-

TRUTH OF FRIENDSHIPS

everyone would get along better." Allison Krysa and Lisa Luebke, seniors

When trying to keep all members of a friendship satisfied with the relationship it is important that certain qualities are expressed by everyone involved.

"I always try to be there to make my friends laugh and have a good time. I listen to their problems and give them helpful advice. It is also important to be honest with your friends." Alison Dainton, senior

Honesty is always the best policy when it comes to a friendship. If friends are not honest with each other it is nearly impossible for that relationship to survive.

"I'm very honest with all my friends. I can talk to them about anything. Whenever a friend needs help I'm there. Whenever someone talks about a friend I always defend her. It's very important that you have trust in a friendship." Patty Traficante, senior

While it is said that nothing or nobody is perfect this also includes friendships. Everybody has their own unique personality which makes it nearly impossible to never get an any qualms with a friend.

"There is no such thing as a perfect friendship. In a relationship there is bound to be disagreements, as in every relationship. You don't hear of a perfect marriage or of someone who doesn't fight with her mother." Staci Lavery, senior

Friendships are a very important part of your life during high school. Some of the friends you meet in high school you will have for the rest of your life, other friendships don't last a week.

"Some people can't handle being in a friendship. There are people you meet and you just know that they are going to be friends for a long time, and there are people you meet and you know that they will not last, because they are either too fazed or you just don't get along with them." Alison Dainton, senior

When high school is all over and you have a family and new friends hopefully some of those friendships that were developed in high school will still last. If a friendship is strong enough it will last simply because of the memories that you both share.

STUDENTS LOOK FOR CHANGES

By: George Vasilopoulos

The lunches over the years at Merrillville High School have been very different. Not just in looks but also in appearance. Some days you will find something that you can care to eat just to get you by for the day. Others you will find that little something that you would care not to eat at all.

Many of the students at MHS buy lunch for the reason that they are hungry and don't have time to make the "brown bagged" sandwich or that some days what is for lunch looks good.

Never fear, the lunches at MHS will get better. The prices will stay the same at the least. Last year many companies

came to the corporation to sell us their food. There was only going to be one that came out to being the best. At the end there were two companies that won, Marriot and Canteen. Then rumors flew and Marriot was to win but Canteen flourished and is going to be the new food provider for MHS and the whole corporation.

"As long as we get better food from this company, I will eat it" stated Kevin Schafer. Many in the school will benefit from the new company. They will bring sandwiches that the students and faculty will be able to make on their own (deli bar). The company will let the school

That will be ...
Kara David, junior pays for her frozen yogurt in the ala carte line. This was one of the more popular foods added second semester.

Canteen adds new foods as the school year progresses.

continue to sell the Little Debbie snacks. At the end of the first semester the school started to sell milk shakes and frozen yogurt. Also, added were a Coca Cola fountain machine and seltzer water.

"How will the prices be regulated?" asked Danny Boyd. Canteen will keep the prices as they stand and will not raise them unless there is not a profit coming in. In past years this question has floated in many minds. When the school first set out for a new food company many parents stated the if the prices were to go up with a new company then what is the purpose of getting a new one.





Pirate Power

"As long as we get better food from this company, I will eat it."

Kevin
Shafer,
sophomore



Adding condiments Mike Guernsey, sophomore puts ketchup on his sandwich after buying a type "A" lunch. Lunch lines were long this year causing a change to five lunch hours next year.

There's time left to eat it! Dan Hidalgo, junior eats his mini-pizza. The line serving little pizzas, fries, and drinks only was usually the shortest giving students more time left to eat..

DANCES

FUN FOR STUDENTS

By: Alan Hepp

Dances vary from informal events to Prom.

May I cut in? This question is commonly asked among Merrillville students at the various dances.

There are many reasons that people come to dances. Some just like to dance. "It helps you relax and just go crazy. Certain kinds of music can stir your adrenaline or touch your emotions," said Chuck Stapinski, senior. "I like to dance because it is fun and I like music," said Brooke Seydel, senior. Others like to be with their friends. Cary Anunson, senior, said, "Its fun because it's time to spend with your friends." An anonymous person stated that dances are fun "for

watching people."

At Merrillville, many types of dances exist. From the various informal dances that are held at various times throughout the year, to Homecoming, Turnabout, and Valentines Day dance, to Prom, the big formal event where 500 dollar dresses, limos and movie cameras are commonplace. Why do people spend so much money on Prom... after all, it's only a dance. Isn't it? More guys than girls feel this way. However, most of the people that think that prom is a waste of money haven't actually been to Prom. Others disagree. Seydel stated, "It is not a waste of money,

but it is not really special; It's just a thing that's a big deal in high school." Stapinski added, "Prom is special because you dress up in the finest clothes and everyone looks awesome. It's just a big event and something to look forward to. Also after the dance, activities can always be very exciting."

So for one reason or another, people still go to dances like they have for years. The dances have changed but the reasons for going have not. In the future, will we get to dance with all of the computers and automatization that get more advanced each year. I wonder...





Getting down.
Dancing to the music of Naughty by Nature, Brandi Cheairs, senior, and her date move to the beat at the Turnabout Dance held at Christmas.

Taking a break.
Felicia Diaz, sophomore, and her father take a break from dancing to enjoy the refreshments at Mommy and Daddy Date Night.



Pirate Power

"It helps you relax and just go crazy. certain kinds of music can stir your adrenaline or touch your emotions."

Chuck
Stapinski,
senior



Taking it off.
Kevin Lohse, senior, removes his date's garter. Garters are a traditional gift from a girl to her date.

Pirate Power

"I basically tried out for the Revue because I thought it would be fun, and because I love to sing."

Jennifer Dainton,
sophomore



Making their mark. Members of Thirsty Camel practice for the annual Revue. Microphones were late arriving which limited everyone's practice time.

Chosen to play Sean Shocaroff, senior, jams on the drums at the review. Cast members did their best to ensure that 1993 was the best Revue ever.



**In spite
of concern
the Revue
wouldn't
be ready,
it pulled
together.**

STUDENTS SHOW-OFF TALENT

By: Christine Onoff

Revue- '93, "Radio Days Then To Now," MHS' annual student talent show, took place in the newly renovated Reinhart Auditorium. The theme covered the history of radio from the thirties to the present, offering different types of music and clothing.

The selected Revue members practiced every-other-day. "We had two nights of auditions. Forty-four acts tried out to be in the show, and from there, we had to narrow it down to between approximately 28-30 acts. It wasn't easy to eliminate acts, but we did so to ensure variety and the quality of the performance on the whole," Steve Elser, director, stated.

"I basically tried out for the Revue because I thought it would be fun, and because I love to sing," Jennifer

Dainton, sophomore, revealed. Tiffany Vivo, senior, contributed, "We've (my family and I) wanted to be in the Revue for a number of years, but we never really had the time. So, since this is my last year, we basically decided that we might as well do it now."

Phil Gornick, senior, agrees, "It's our 'Revue,' I'm excited about this because it's our last year; it's finally our turn. We're getting really pumped up. We've been watching other bands for so long, and it's 'Thirsty Camels' time to rock the house!"

The Revue does indeed offer a range of acts this year, almost insuring pleasure from every age group by changing from the opening production number "Who's on First" to a tap dance routine; then on to

Thirsty Camel, and finally the transition to a modern dance routine.

"I think the Revue will be different from the other years, we're doing different things like a production and other things like that," Abby Vivo, sophomore, explained. Likewise, Carrie Zapinski, junior, added, "The show will be good on the whole. We're adding more things this year and getting more people involved."

However, speculation came from some cast members that the show. Kathy Torres, a senior member of Bass Movement said, "Things are hectic now, but we still have a week of practice and things should come together."

Elser concluded, "It's one of the best shows in years, with many talented kids."

Heading south.

Christine Onoff, senior, puts her hands in the handprints of Michael Jackson at MGM/Universal Theater in Florida. Florida was one of the most popular Spring Break destinations.

Working on a tan.

Kim Onoff, freshman, and Christine Onoff, senior, pose with a statue in Sarasota, Florida. Their family spent vacation enjoying the Florida sun. Many students worked on a tan to show off at school.



Pirate Power

“As much as I would like to go somewhere else for Spring Break, I have a lot of things to get done here.”
Holly Luedtke,
senior.



Sitting at the top.

Cathy Navarro and Dina Weis, juniors, take a moment to relax at the top of Soldier's and Sailor's Monument in the circle in Indianapolis.



Students show creativ- ity in choos- ing fun places to go for Spring Break

STUDENTS

SEEK VACATION ALTERNATIVES

By: Lynn Holley

Florida seems to be the place where most people go for Spring Break. This Spring Break is no different. Not only is Florida the "hot spot" but other states as well.

Although many students go to Florida, others prefer to go somewhere else. Some place different and some place where they won't see anybody from school.

"I am going to Tennessee with my boyfriend Phil," said Wendy Woodburn, senior. "He has this idea of getting up at 4:30 am to go fishing in the river near by. I also would like to practice my tennis serve at the tennis courts."

"I am going to Florida, Wisconsin, and Tennessee to see my family," said Tracy Conn, senior.

"As much as I would like to go somewhere else for Spring Break, I have a lot of things to get done here," said Holly Luedtke, senior. "I have practice for the musical 'Snoopy', I will be finishing up projects for my application for the Art Department of BSU and will be working on my FHA state conference project."

Even though people's opinions are very different. Many of them think that their opinion is the best. Places to go for Spring Break are no different.

"The best and only place to go is the Bahamas because that's where I'm going!" said Danie Jo Wengel,

senior.

"My house, but I'll settle for Texas," said JoDe Guistolisi, senior.

"If I had to choose a place to go for Spring Break," said Aaron Vanderwarf, junior. "My first choice would probably be the wilderness and mountains of Colorado. First of all, if hunting and fishing are favorite sports of yours, there are few places better than Colorado. Next, in Colorado, there are many choice places to go camping, where one can find breath-taking spots that are scores of miles from anything civilized. Also, as there is an abundance of swift-running water, white-water rafting and kayaking draw many people to Colorado. Finally, Colorado is a beautiful place with lots of exhilarating pastimes available to anyone with a car or money to fly."

Finally, there still are some people who can't go anywhere. Their plans are interesting and different.

"My plans for Spring Break vary," said Chrissy Sthe, junior. "I'm first going to my mom's house in Portage. From there my mom and I are taking a bus to Tennessee to visit my uncle. We will spend three days there and then come back to Portage. The rest of the days my mom and I will go shopping in Chicago."

"When I think of Spring Break I am reminded of family, friends, and togetherness, ev-

ery year I go to visit my grandparents for Spring Break," said Lisa M. Whittemore, senior. "This is the time for our annual family reunion. Some people look forward to getting away from their families for a week, while I count the days until I can see them again. Every year is special, but this year holds a different value. This is my last Spring Break with them before I graduate. Every student looks forward to finally getting out of high school and being free. However, it seems once they start college and get a job they have less freedom than before. It may be almost a year before I can see my grandparents again so I am going to cherish my Spring Break with them. It may not be as warm as Cancun or as exciting as Fort Lauderdale but to me it is the best way to spend Spring Break."

"Over Spring Break I'm planning on staying home and hanging out with my friends," said Stacy Peek, junior. "I'm gonna be with my friends one day cooking out, eating hot dogs and hamburgers and then go to Deep River and play volleyball, football, etc. and have a good time. I'm planning on staying in Merrillville, Indiana."

Spring Break is a time to kick back and relax and not have a care in the world. You don't have to go to some far off place to relax. Staying home can be just as relaxing and it saves money too.

Pirate Ponder

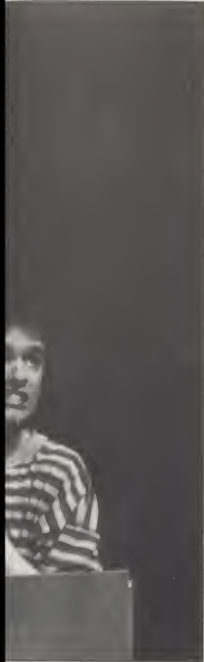
"This school is known for sports, not fine arts. It would have been nice to see more people there. They missed a great musical. We, as a cast, worked very hard. Many of the people that did go, really enjoyed it." Jennifer Dainton, sophomore



HORROR! TERROR! Jason Rico, freshman, Michelle Verbik, sophomore, Holly Luedtke and Jim Lesniak, seniors, are bedazzled in fright during a rehearsal for Snoopy.

Boo hoo, boo hoo! Woodstock, portrayed by Lisa Boren, cries in sadness. Attendance was fair at the show, but not a sell-out.





Get your thumb out of your mouth! Jason Rico, sophomore sings his heart out as Jim Lesniak, senior, sucks on his thumb.

**After
25 years
a musical
returns
to MHS**

SNOOPY MARKS MUSICAL DEBUT

By: Tom Gayda

A musical comes around Merrillville about as frequently as Halley's comet, but when one does everyone takes notice. On April 23 and 24 seven dedicated actors took to the stage and made musical history. For the first time in 25 years the school presented the musical, "Snoopy" at Reinhart Auditorium. Theater goers were treated to a classy musical production.

Jennifer Dainton, sophomore, loved the musical. "I thought it went great. It was an awesome experience especially since it was the first one here at MHS in a while," she commented.

A lot of hard work and time goes into a high school production, especially when the participants are few and far between.

Director Mark Owens, Pierce Middle School social studies teacher, states, "I wanted to start out small and hopefully bring in interest."

Future musicals are

probable. A large portion of the cast are underclassmen that would enjoy another musical.

"This school is known for sports, not fine arts. It would have been nice to see more people there. They missed a great musical. We, as a cast, worked very hard. Many of the people that did go, really enjoyed it," commented Dainton.

Others share the same opinion.

Jason Rico, sophomore likes musicals. "I like singing because it expresses your character more."

Snoopy and the gang were well received by people in attendance, although Reinhart Auditorium wasn't a sell-out either night, partly since Mommy-Daddy Date Night conflicted with Friday's opening night performance.

Sophomore Chrissy Dickerson comments, "The performance was very good.

I enjoyed watching them act, but I did not care for the idea of the musical. It had no plot. I thought it was shabby. I would like to see musicals with a story behind it, like Grease."

Musicals vs. plays, which is better?

"I think they are equal. It really depends on the performances," adds Dickerson.

Through the years the choir has always put on mini-performances during their programs, but never have they ever went full swing into a musical. Ironically, the musical had few people involved in choir.

Cast members none the less look forward to more musicals.

"This was my first musical, but I hope to be in many more. My dream is to star in a famous musical such as 'Les Miserables' or 'Phantom of the Opera,' but I guess I will have to wait and see what the future brings," concludes Dainton.

SYSTEM

ADVANCES

COMMUNICATION

By: Cathy Navarro

New technology is turning MHS into a school ready for the 21st century. In October the VIS system finally became operational.

The VIS system includes the new phones, which consist of many different extensions, 12 phone lines, a paging system, a hotline for homework, a calendar of events, and allows teacher-asier access to call parents and vice versa.

The telephones that each teacher has are connected to two mailboxes which are similar to answering machines. This is where teachers will be able to receive messages from parents, which alleviates the problem of ringing phones interrupting classes.

Also, part of this high tech VIS system is new televisions which are installed in every classroom. The information needed to run

the televisions will be transferred by a beam of light.

These futuristic TV's will not only be for viewing videos and morning announcements. They also will run laser videos, two 16 millimeter projectors running through the television which will enable teachers to show videos without having the hassle of carting a projector into the classroom, still video, interactive video, and microvideo. Still videos are photos taken with zapshots, a type of camera that puts pictures on a disk used in sync with VCR's and computer. Interactive video uses a laser disc player that is controlled by a computer. Microvideo is used to view what is put on a microscope, except it is projected onto the television screen so that the whole class can view it.

Teachers and students see different advan-

Phone and television system opens new options for students and teachers.

tages to this new system. While most seniors are disappointed that they have such a short time to see the system in use, the underclassmen feel that they will all benefit. Freshman Meg Penley likes the ideas of announcements being telecast from the media center. She says, "It's better; people will be forced to pay more attention."

Patricia McNally and Barb Dlouhy, special education teachers, are pleased with the new system. They comment, "The phones will be a real convenience especially for special education. What we do involves much communication with the students' parents and having the phones in our classrooms will make a better two-way communication."

With the VIS system, communication is the key word.



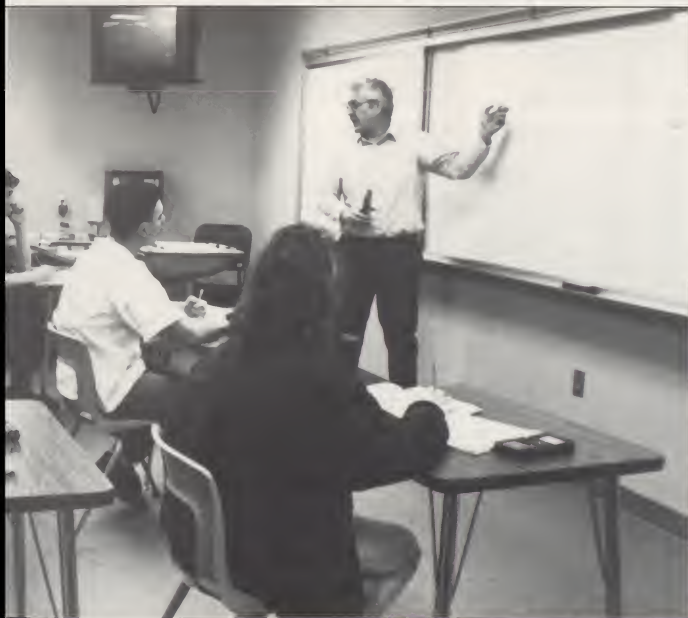


Out with the old

The televisions on a cart, such as the one in science teacher William Angelidis' room, are a thing of the past. They have been made obsolete by the new VIS system.

The marvels of technology

The new VIS system in the corner of Richard Hill's math room provides easy access to a phone and a much easier method of showing a video.



Pirate Power

The phones will be a real convenience for special education.

Patricia McNally and Barb Dlouhy, special education teachers

Pirate Power

"We all had fun that night and it will be a night I always remember."

Jason Pabon,
senior



I got it, I got it!

Many students took advantage of the open gym period to work off a little energy playing basketball and volleyball. Other sleepyheads needed to keep moving to stay awake all night.

How low can you go?

Tammy Robinson, senior, competes in the limbo contest held at the lock-in. Attendance was down a little bit this year because the date for lock-in was changed so many times.



Entertaining the crowd
Thirsty Camel, a popular student
band at MHS, contributed to the
lock-in's festivities by playing a few
tunes.

**Seniors
spend a last
night with
close friends
before they
go separate
ways.**

SENIORS ENJOY LOCK-IN

By: Tom Gayda

The terror! A graduating class kept at school all night - on a Friday, none the less! Who in their right mind would do such a terrible thing? Why the administration and faculty, of course. April 20 marked the annual senior lock-in at the school. Olympics, performing bands, minimal sleeping, and food was everywhere this night as the unruly class of 1993 spent some of their final moments together.

"The senior lock-in was fun because we were with of our friends that we might not be seeing anymore," commented Jason Pabon, senior.

A lot of planning went into the lock-in to make it

successful. Last minute expertise was needed to cope with the date being changed at the last minute due to the Orthodox Easter.

Many students passed up the lock-in. They thought that it came to late, and it wasn't what it appeared to be.

John Dulla, senior, stated, "I could have gone but I decided not to. It wasn't a big thing like many people expected."

None the less, the lock-in had a pleasing turn out. In the weeks prior to the event students signed up for the Olympics that were held throughout the school. Also at the lock-in the senior's favorite band,

Thirsty Camel performed for the outgoing graduates.

Juniors turned out at the lock-in in order to help things run smoothly. Margaret Toledo, junior was one of them.

"It was fun, but tiresome since I had to take my SAT the next day," acknowledged Toledo.

The night lived on forever April 20 and will continue to do so.

"We all had fun that night and it will be a night I always remember," concludes Pabon.

To some the lock-in signifies the ending of their high school career. To others it signifies the beginning of the rest of their lives.



PROM BECOMES MEMORY

By: Erin O'Deen

For those in charge, prom begins months in advance. Planning the theme, the colors, and the favors require a lot of work.

For others there is the frantic rush to find the perfect dress or a matching garter, to order just the right flowers, or to be fitted for the tux that makes you feel like James Bond.

"We had so many different plans, but finally decided what we wanted to do the last couple of days before prom," said Jeff Cook, senior.

Transportation plays a big part in modern proms too. There is the decision, to hire a limo or to rent a Cadillac. Few students take the family car to prom anymore.

This year's prom, "You are so beautiful to me," was held on Saturday, May 15 at St. Elijah Serbian-American Hall.

After all the hours of planning and preparation, the five hours of prom seems to go by very quickly.

The doors opened at 6 p.m. with the dinner served at 7 p.m. giving students a chance to have their pictures taken before they got messed up.

The Musicmen provided the music for dancing from 8 p.m. to midnight as students in a rainbow of finery crowded the dance floor amid the red, black, and silver decorations.

By 9 p.m. the excitement had built to a peak as everyone anticipated the crowning of the king and queen. Junior Monica Origel was crowned queen of the evening, and Tony Bartolomeo, junior, was crowned king.

Following the crowning, students took part in the Grand March across the parking lot. After the Grand March dates exchanged garters and bowties and the king and queen danced the traditional dance.

Before long it was time to go as students talked about their plans for the rest of the

Prom brings out 'beautiful' juniors and seniors in all their finery.

weekend. Chicago seemed to be a popular place to go. Some people went to comedy clubs in Chicago, rode on party boats, or just went for a casual walk on the beach.

Ten years from now we're all going to look back at the weekend and smile. Everyone remembers their high school prom. It's a once in a lifetime experience, a time to look back on with fond memories.

"Both times I went to prom I will always remember. It's just something you'll never forget," commented Mike Valenti, senior.

It's the best way to end the school year. Senior Kassy McConnell remarks, "It was great. It like the seniors came together one last time."

Prom is an event where the seniors say goodbye while juniors anxiously await their senior year. To many it signifies an end to twelve years of education and another school year.





Look into my eyes.
 Hope Jusko, senior
 attends prom with MHS
 alumnus Doug Musgrove.
 Students may bring an
 alumnus or a date from
 another school by filling
 out an application.

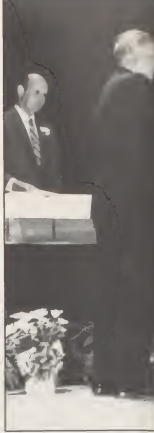


Prom royalty
 Prom king Tony
 Bartolomeo and prom
 queen Monica Origel,
 juniors, were the choice
 of those attending the
 annual dance.

Dancing to the beat.
 The dance floor of St.
 Elijah's Serbian Hall was
 crowded as people
 danced to tunes from the
 Musicians who deejayed
 for the evening.

The final symbol.
Hope Jusko and the class of 1993
await instructions from Dr. Daniel
C. Rapacz, principal, to turn their
tassels from right to left, the final
step in their commencement.

It's worth it!
Aisha Anderson accepts her
diploma from Dr. Robert Schrenker,
Superintendent of MCSC, during
graduation ceremonies held at the
Radisson Star Plaza.



Pirate Ponder

"A moment of
silence to let
the seniors
think about
the future or
say a silent
prayer could
make every-
one happy."

Theresa
Mosley,
senior





**Although
dissension
marred the
final days, it
made no ap-
pearance at
graduation.**



COMMENCEMENT

HELD AT RADISSON

When the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" could at last be heard, the dissension about their graduation ceremonies which marked the final weeks of the school year was nowhere to be found.

To be sure, some students still wished that graduation was being held at Demaree Stadium, while others only wished that the senior class would have had more say about their graduation.

In the final days, the issue was to have a prayer or not to have a prayer. Putting all of the legal aspects aside, Theresa Mosley offered her idea, "A moment of silence to let the seniors think about the future or say a silent prayer could make everyone happy." Still, in the end there was no prayer.

Finally, on the evening of June 9, commencement exercises were held at the

Radisson Star Theater.

As the seniors stood waiting to make their entrance, some were nervous, others were sad, and some were very excited.

At 7 p.m. seniors and teachers filled into their seats in the front of the Radisson Star Theater.

The graduates sat as a class for the last time and listened to the speeches of John Mishorich, class president; Linda Polomchak, valedictorian; Patrick Tsai, valedictorian; and James Lesniak, salutatorian.

Then featured speaker John Alston III addressed the class giving them an idea of a positive way to face the future.

At last the time was here, and row by row the seniors filed to the stage waiting to hear their name called by Sherman Lewis or Drew Furuness, senior guidance counselors. One by one the

class of 1993 proudly received their diplomas from Dr. Robert Schrenker, superintendent of Merrillville Community School Corporation, and walked across the stage to shake the hand of Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, principal.

A poignant moment occurred when Kim Patterson's brother accepted her diploma. Kim had lost her battle with cancer earlier in the school year.

When everyone had returned to his or her seat, Dr. Rapacz made his final remarks to the seniors. Then he directed them to turn their tassels thus becoming alumni of Merrillville High School.

As "Procession of The Nobles" began to play the traditional purple and white balloons were dropped on the graduates signaling the end of commencement.

Looking to the future, John Alston III concludes his address to the class of 1993. He used music to help drive his point home.

HELPING VICTIMS

Mr. Betty Crocker was a contest invented by Student Government to help raise money for the victims of Hurricane Andrew.

The competitors were senior football players who teamed up with varsity cheerleaders. Their job was to make a cake that best represented Merrillville's Homecoming theme "Rock the Boat"

and to raise the most money.

Then the staff and students voted for the cake they liked best by putting money in a canister.

The chefs got their ideas from friends, cookbooks, and even at cooking stores. In the end, John Mishorich, aided by Jennifer Beck, was named Mr. Betty Crocker.

"I didn't expect so much' the cakes looked good."
Wilfred Vivo, junior

Watching victory slip away, the junior powder puff team tries to come up with some strategy to thwart the senior's offense. The class of '94 was unable to manage a victory, however.



Starting a trend, David Joseforsky, senior, poses with business teacher Beverly Ambroziak. When Joseforsky shaved his head at the beginning of the year and left the "P" for Pirates a new wave of baldness began.



Saturday, September 12, volunteers from Merrillville, Gary, Hammond, Lake Station, and Valparaiso got together in honor of National Coast Week to sweep the beach.

Sweep the beach? Yes, sweep the beach is exactly what they did. According to Indiana coordinator Lee Botts, "We've got the beaches covered from the Illinois state line to Mount Baldy."

This annual event was sponsored by the Lake Michigan Federation, the Grand Calumet Task Force, Indiana Dunes State Park, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and the National Park Service as part of the Center for the Marine Conservation's National Coast Week.

Becky Jenkins, freshman, feels that her time was put to good use. "I'm happy that we went. We got a lot of litter off the beach and it helped find out what was on the beach because we had to write down everything we found."

Volunteers arrived bright and early Saturday and worked until approximately noon. The coast was divided into sections. Merrillville's volunteers got West Beach.



sept ember

A stadium full of screaming fans and a football team hyped up to win the biggest game of the season. Put these two together and what do you have? The Hobart Merrillville football game.

Students were lined up for hours trying to get tickets for the game. Over 9,000 tickets were sold and the game was sold out.

oct "I'm not sure how many tickets were sold, all I know is that people were scalping tickets like crazy," said Lisa Borens, senior.

The crowd had been waiting for this game the whole week. Students especially were ready for this game. They were planning tail gate parties after school and lining up at the gates early. After the gates opened, there was standing room only.

"The stadium was so full that some of the Merrillville people had to sit on the Hobart side," said Borens.

Stan Matunas, junior, agreed, "It was packed."

This was the best game all season. Everybody was hyped up and cheering their team on to victory. Students say that this was "definitely" the most spirited game all season.

ober

New to the school this year was the Dr. Eleanor Lewis art gallery near the main office. Different pieces of art were displayed in the gallery on a regular basis.

Nathan Tefft, senior, listens to students from Andean as they voice their opinion on the Merrillville community. Students from both schools gathered to voice their concerns with a team from Ball State.



Cheering the Pirates on to victory John Skrundz, senior; Bob Orelup, MHS alumnus; and George Vasilopoulos, senior braved the cold weather to see the team down Hobart for the second straight year.

Through the week of November 9, a team of faculty and students from Ball State University came to Merrillville to interview people from the area and get their input on improving the town.

The group, led by Dr. Scott Truax, who was joined by MHS alumnus Megan Lux, met with a group of students from both MHS and Andean at the Administrative Center on November 10.

The open forum provided students the opportunity to state what they want to see happen in Merrillville in the future, including activities and groups they could interact in.

One of the questions posed was how often MHS and Andean students get together and interact. Nathan Tefft, senior, said, "Once a year at a football game."

A Merrillville youth center was a resounding suggestion of the students.

They would like to have a place to go and swim, play sports, skate, and do community activities. Debbie Kings, freshman, says, "We need a place to go and get to know each other."

Besides the center, students stated they'd like to see more parks in Merrillville, a restaurant for kids, and more community spirit from adults.

nov

ember

It's Christmas time again. National Honor Society and Student Government joined forces to conduct their Adopt-a-child campaign. Principals and teachers from the elementary schools recommend students whose families could use some help to make their Christmas brighter.

Each homeroom is then asked to adopt one of these children for Christmas. Money is collected.

december

Gifts for the child are purchased or donated by homeroom members. Then they are wrapped, and placed in a large box bearing the child's name and elementary school. Gifts for family members and groceries or gift certificates for food stores are also sometimes included.

The boxes are then dropped off at the elementary schools by club members and parents pick them up.



Chrissy Dickerson, sophomore, helps to organize the boxes of gifts to be delivered to the elementary schools where grateful parents will pick them up.

On the brisk winter morning of January 20, William Jefferson Clinton was sworn in as the 52nd president of the United States. As Clinton enters office, he promises change as well as new opportunities for the American people. But will these changes be felt here in Merrillville? And what does Clinton have to do with MHS students?

jan

In the October 30 issue of *the Mirror*, the students of MHS predicted the election would swing in Clinton's favor. Clinton received 44 percent of the students' votes. Having won the election here, Clinton seems to be the favored man.

"I think Clinton will be a good president. He is younger and this should make him more popular with the younger generation," stated Melissa Peterson, junior.

Not everyone is particularly pleased with Clinton's election, however. Alison Rimer, junior, is quick to point out Clinton's faults. "Every few years this country needs a Democrat for the voters to realize we don't need one."

Some students see the need for change and are optimistic about Clinton's election. "There needs to be reform in health care. We need a completely new health care system. Clinton has got to be strong and create a new plan," comments Czar Goetz, junior. He continues, "No one president can fix America's problems, but he (Clinton) will try."



Students check out their pictures from Turnabout. Many students purchase pictures to save the memories of the dance and to trade with their friends.

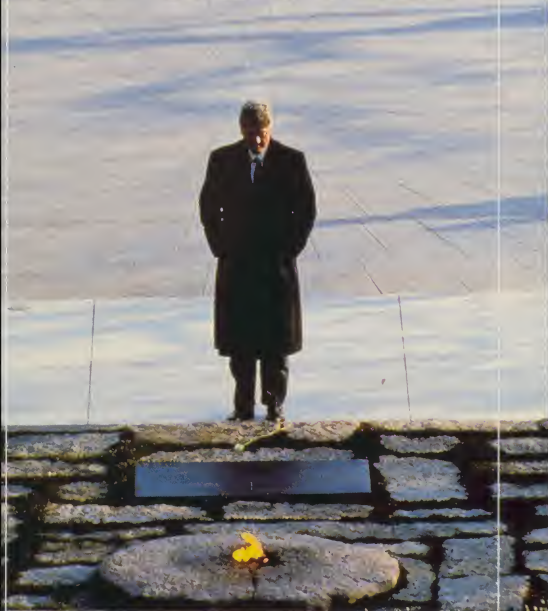
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'92-'93

YEAR

IN REVIEW



In a quiet moment amongst all the festivities of inauguration week, President-elect Bill Clinton found time to reflect upon the past during a visit to the tomb of former President John F. Kennedy. The next day, during his inauguration speech, he urged Americans to look to the future. (Photo by Sipa Press)

WHO PLAYED?

Inauguration celebrations included a wide variety of musical talents.

REUNION ON THE MALL

- Salt-n-Pepa
- Los Lobos
- Toad the Wet Sprocket

52ND PRESIDENTIAL GALA

- Michael Bolton
- Fleetwood Mac
- Michael Jackson
- Barbra Streisand

MTV 1993

- ROCK AND ROLL INAUGURAL BALL
- Boyz II Men
- En Vogue (with Roger Clinton)
- Don Henley
- Soul Asylum
- Automatic Baby (with members of U2 and R.E.M.)
- 10,000 Maniacs

Photo by Contact Press



The Clintons danced and greeted supporters at 11 official balls during inauguration week festivities.

The 1992 Presidential

election will probably be best remembered as a season of change — not only because of the transfer of power, but also in the ways the campaigns were conducted.

For the first time in modern memory, a third-party candidate made a serious bid for the presidency. H. Ross Perot captured the imagination of voters with his independent bid, but soon disappointed them when he dropped out of the race in July.

Returning in October, he won many Americans over with his plain talk and television infomercials. Perot gained the necessary signatures to place him on state ballots, and received 19 percent of the popular vote.

Major-party candidates George Bush and Bill Clinton appeared on talk shows and crisscrossed the country making personal appearances to sway the electorate.

Both Barbara Bush and Hillary

Photo by STGMA

A third-party candidate and a revived Democratic party had Americans excited about the 1992 Presidential election.

Clinton were active, often campaigning apart from their husbands.

Even Murphy Brown, inhaling and spelling were part of the hard-fought campaign.

Voters turned out in record numbers, many waiting in line for hours to cast their ballots.

In the end, it was Clinton's combination of small-town roots and broad visions of change that tipped the American public in his favor.

Photo by Steve Papp



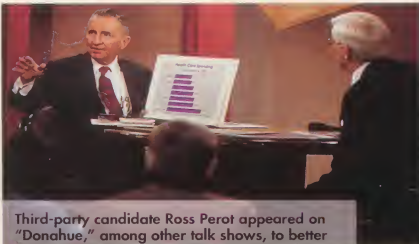
The theme of the Clinton/Gore campaign was "Putting People First," and the Democrats went out on the road to show their commitment. Clinton and running mate Al Gore, along with their wives, made scores of personal appearances, touring the country by bus.

ELECTION



Former President George Bush won his party's nomination in August, but many saw the Republican Convention as a sign of the strife and division inside the GOP.

Photo by Globe Photos



Third-party candidate Ross Perot appeared on "Donahue," among other talk shows, to better reach the public. He often used charts and graphs to illustrate his message. Television and radio talk shows, from "Larry King Live" to MTV, played an important part in all three campaigns.



Photo by Reuters/Reuters



Photo by SYGMA

Republican vice presidential candidate Dan Quayle suggested that this grade-school student add the letter 'e' to correctly spell 'patato.'



Photo by Sigma Press



Photo by Sigma Press

George Bush, modeling his campaign after that of Harry Truman, used a whistle-stop tour to reach voters.

Bill Clinton and Al Gore celebrated their election-night victory in Little Rock, Ark.



When the Elvis stamp was unveiled in June, postal patrons had selected the young King over a more mature Elvis.

OVERKILL

12/1/92—Amy Fisher was sentenced to 5-15 years for shooting the wife of her alleged lover, Joey Buttafuoco. Within two months, all three major television networks had shown movies dramatizing the case.

DIVORCED

9/25/92—Gregory Kingsley, a 12-year-old boy, "divorced" his mother so that he could be adopted by a foster family who had been caring for him.

AMBUSHED

1/25/93—Two CIA employees were killed and three were injured when a gunman opened fire near the entrance of the CIA headquarters in Langley, Va.

This past year saw further proof that the Cold War was over, while other countries flexed their muscles in the latest hot spots. In December, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and former President George Bush agreed to START II, a continuing reduction of nuclear arms by Russia and the U.S.

Three months later, Yeltsin faced serious opposition from conservative hard-liners and the remaining Communists in his government. Although unable to get enough votes for an outright impeachment, the Congress of People's Deputies continued to try to weaken Yeltsin's power.

In August, the U.S. and its Gulf War allies issued an order prohibiting Iraqi planes from flying south of the 32nd parallel. The order, which was enacted to protect Shiites in Southern Iraq, was enforced in December when Iraqi warplanes began to enter the zone. On Jan. 13, the Western allies retaliated in force by bombing Iraqi missile batteries and radar stations.

The British royal family had a year they would like to forget. Princess Anne ended one marriage and started another. After several public indiscretions by the Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, Prince Andrew decided they should separate. Prime Minister John Major

announced to the House of Commons that Prince Charles and Princess Diana would also separate. As the year came mercifully to an end, a fire in Windsor Castle destroyed the 14th Century St. George's Hall.

Back in the United States, Dr. Jack Kevorkian, the so-called "suicide doctor," raced against time when a Michigan law was passed making assisted suicides illegal. Kevorkian, who had helped 15 terminally ill patients end their lives since 1990, vowed to continue his work until Feb. 25, when the law went into effect.

A religious compound in Waco, Texas, became the scene of a tense standoff when cult leader David Koresh and his followers opened fire on ATF agents who were there investigating a report that weapons were being stockpiled. Four ATF agents were killed and 15 were injured, and a war of nerves ensued as officials waited for Koresh to surrender.

Not only did the American people choose a new president in 1992, they also elected many new faces to Congress. After complaints about governmental gridlock and a check-bouncing scandal,

anti-incumbent sentiments were high. A record-setting number of women and minorities were elected, including Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois, the first African-American woman to be elected to the Senate.

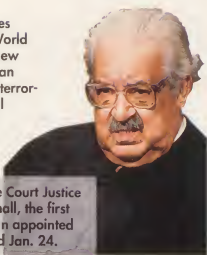
Photo by SYGMA



What many called "The Storm of the Century" battered the East Coast in mid-March, dumping rain, sleet and snow from Maine to Florida, killing 219 people.



Emergency vehicles gathered at the World Trade Center in New York City, where an explosion from a terrorist bomb shook all 110 floors, killing six and injuring more than 1,000.



Retired Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American appointed to the court, died Jan. 24.

Photo by SYGMA



Photo by SYGMA



Photo by Corbis Press

U.S. troops were deployed in a non-military action, with the blessing of the United Nations, to the African nation of Somalia in November. Forces served as protection for international aid shipments to help combat the wide-spread starvation. Earlier relief efforts were not successful because warring clans made delivery of food and supplies nearly impossible.



Photo by SYGMA

Serbian forces continued to attack Muslims in Bosnia and the U.S. began air drops of food and supplies.

Hurricane Andrew, with winds of up to 164 miles-per-hour, left 33 dead and 300,000 homeless in Florida and Louisiana in August.

The Dallas Cowboys dominated the Buffalo Bills on their way to handing the Bills their third straight Super Bowl loss.

Photo by SYGMA



Disney's *Aladdin* received two Oscars, best original score and best original song.

Photo by SYGMA

Photo by SYGMA



U.S. long jumper Mike Powell won a silver medal at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona. The U.S. captured 108 medals.

After 11 seasons, viewers no longer had a regular Thursday night date at *Cheers*. The highly successful NBC series brought back former producers and writers for the last few episodes.

Photo by SYGMA

The World Series was won by a team outside the U.S. for the first time, as the Toronto Blue Jays defeated the Atlanta Braves in six games. Toronto won the Series, 4-2.



Photo by SYGMA



The 1992-93 school year brought both new and familiar faces into the sports and entertainment spotlight, and also saw the end to some illustrious careers.

New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner returned to baseball after serving only two and a half years of his "lifetime" ban when the former commissioner, Fay Vincent, pardoned him.

Vincent himself resigned as commissioner in September after several major clashes with the owners.

Bo Jackson returned from what was assumed to be a career-ending hip injury. Picked up on waivers by the Chicago White Sox, Jackson had hip-replacement surgery and made the

team during Florida spring training.

Spring training was also the site of tragedy for the Cleveland Indians—on March 20, relief pitcher Steve Olin and backup catcher Tim Crews were killed when the boat they were in crashed into a pier.

The Summer Olympics brought together the NBA's best players for the U.S. basketball team. "The Dream Team" brought home a gold medal and provided a last hurrah for the soon-to-be retired Magic Johnson and Larry Bird, whose bad back forced him out of the game.

Johnson had announced his retirement from basketball in November 1991, then returned in September of the next year. After weeks of controversy during which other players expressed the fear of contracting AIDS from him, he retired for good Nov. 2.

In entertainment news, Woody Allen's relationship with long-time companion Mia Farrow ended amid much publicity, when Farrow accused

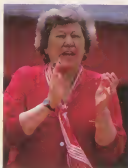


Photo by SYGMA

Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott was suspended for a year from baseball for directing racial and ethnic slurs toward employees.

OSCAR WINNERS

- **BEST PICTURE:**
Unforgiven
- **BEST DIRECTOR:**
Clint Eastwood, for *Unforgiven*
- **BEST ACTOR:**
Al Pacino, for *Scent of a Woman*
- **BEST ACTRESS:**
Emma Thompson, for *Howard's End*
- **BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR:**
Gene Hackman, for *Unforgiven*
- **BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS:**
Marisa Tomei, for *My Cousin Vinny*
- **BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY:**
Neil Jordan, for *The Crying Game*



Photo by SYGMA

David Letterman took his stupid pet tricks to CBS after 11 years at NBC in exchange for an earlier time slot and \$14 million a year.



Photo by SYGMA

Former tennis star Arthur Ashe died Feb. 6 of pneumonia caused by complications resulting from an AIDS-weakened immune system.

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Eric Clapton won six awards at the 35th Annual Grammys, including Song of the Year, "Tears in Heaven," and Album of the Year, "Unplugged."

Photo by Steve Fries

him of sexually molesting their seven-year-old daughter, and Allen admitted to having an affair with Farrow's 21-year-old adopted daughter, Soon-Yi.

Spike Lee's *Malcolm X*, a three-and-a-half hour epic look at the slain black leader's life, was released after a year of controversy. The \$35 million movie was both a critical and box office success.

They said it could never be done, but in the January issue of *Superman*, the Man of Steel was killed by Doomsday. Three million copies of the issue were purchased by collectors and fans.

Star Trek: The Next Generation, one of the most popular shows in syndication, continued the 27-year run of *Star Trek* movies and television programs. A new series, *Deep Space Nine*, was added this year.



Former rivals and partners in retirement, both Magic Johnson and Larry Bird called their NBA careers quits this year.

Photo by Dooms



Photo by Ron Spector

Riddick Bowe became the new heavyweight champion when he defeated Evander Holyfield in a unanimous decision. However, he was forced to relinquish the WBC title when he did not defend it against Lennox Lewis.



Photo by SYGMA

Michael Jackson received a lifetime achievement award at the Grammys, performed at the Super Bowl and Inauguration festivities, and granted Oprah Winfrey a television interview.

COMPUTER CONTEST

Football has taken a step further in computer science because of the Region Bowl.

Region Bowl is a computer simulation of two of the areas best teams. Teams consist of five Merrillville football players and four players from Homewood-Floosmoor. An odd number for a football game but *he Times* brought these two teams together to find out who the best is in the region.

Merrillville was represented by Dave Joseforsky, Mike Stewart, Jim Wirtes, John Mishorich, and Zac Wells.

From *the Times'* standpoint, Merrillville was the best

team in Northwest Indiana and Homewood-Floosmoor was the best team in the South Suburbs, so they thought it would be good to have the teams get together for a little game of football.

Stats from both teams were put into the computer to get the game started. Merrillville dominated with the help of David Joseforsky in the regular season. John Mishorich said, "Dave was just great in the regular season."

Wells added, "This is the best way to play football, physically you can't get hurt, only emotionally!" Many people in the simulated game were hurt in the first couple of minutes. This is

only a game though.

There was no pre game conditioning, only of the fingers and hands. Then it was the team members time to see what they could do on the computer and off the field. Mike Stewart stated, "I would of rather of been on the field instead of being in a room with the guys on a computer."

Region Bowl was a game that brought two of the teams in the area to see which will dominate for the season. Merrillville won 30-3 against Homewood-Floosmoor. Dave Joseforsky stated, "This was a good game and (it) was fun to see what we looked like in computer simulation. We killed them."

art (66), and Zac Wells
y after Merrillville
first touchdown in a
ry over Homewood-
r in Region Bowl II
d by the Times.



any Vivo helps mea-
spirit links during half-
Crown Point basket-
The seniors beat the
d sophomores beat
en.



"This is the best way to play football, physically you can't get hurt, only emotionally!"

Zac Wells, senior

feb

Splat! How's about a pie in the face? Sound like fun? Just ask the Freshman and Junior class presidents.

On Saturday, February 6 Abigail Igarta, Junior Class President, and Chris Demure, Freshman Class President, got the taste of whip cream and pie crust at halftime of the game with Crown Point.

The pies were thrown by Sophomore and Senior class officers Ryan Schafer and Abby Vivo because the freshmen and juniors lost the 1993 Spirit Links Competition.

The Spirit Links Competition was held to help Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. Students donated money at lunch time. For every 10 cents, a link was added to the chain for the student's class. A competition was held between the classes, and the losers, well, we know what happened to them.

In all, 600 dollars was raised for the hospital and the students had fun.

link chains
measured at
time of the
etball game
Crown Point.

ruary

The Unified basketball team at MHS is certainly a special team, composed of very special people. The squad is made up of mainstream and special education students at MHS who unite to play teams from other schools in hard-hitting basketball.

The coach of the team, Barb Dlouhy, special education teacher, explains the team. "The team is composed of special education and regular education students. During a game, three special education and two regular education students must be on the court. Special education students must shoot 40 percent of the shots. Otherwise, high school basketball rules are followed."

The unified basketball squad participates in a five team conference. The team boasts an impressive record with only one loss to Boone Grove marring a season in which they won state.

The players are not only on the team to win, but to also renew friendships and make new ones. Also, "Everyone plays an important role, not just the players who put big numbers on the board," Dlouhy added.

Brett Tubbs, senior, comments, "I've played on the team for two years and have made many new friends during the games." Other players agree.

"I really enjoy playing basketball, and they (the school) gave me the chance to play. I've made new friends, but also renewed old acquaintances. I play aggressive, hard defense to help my team. I also am willing to work at being a better player. It's (unified basketball) fun and I enjoy the competition," Warren Martinez, sophomore, said.

All in all the team has fared well. Dlouhy said, "Unified basketball has improved the level of play of special education students and helps to integrate them with the regular school population." Dlouhy concludes, "Friendships are developed on the basketball court that transfer to the hallways, cafeteria, etc."

march

"Friendships are developed on the basketball court that transfer to the hallways, cafeteria, etc."

**Barb Dlouhy,
special education
teacher**

Hoping they didn't get picked to kiss the pig, Mike Krutz, industrial arts teacher; Dr. Dan Rapacz, principal; and Lori Steele, girl's basketball coach wait until the verdict is announced.



When an organization needs money to pay for things, they have a fundraiser. This year Student Government sponsored a Kiss the Pig contest. The students submitted names of teachers they would like to see kiss the pig then the whole school voted on who the winner would be. This year's lucky winner was Coach Lori Steele.

"As Wilfred Vivo narrowed the "Pig Court" down to Coach Wimmer and me, I thought for sure he would give the pig crown to Mr. Wimmer. Once I felt the hat on my head, I knew I was obviously wrong! The 'corny' speech that Coach gave over the intercom didn't back fire like I thought it would," said Coach Steele.

Is this contest worth having again? "Definitely! If for no other reason then to get Coach Wimmer back!! It was a fun contest and a great idea! The entire school got involved which breaks the monotony," said Coach Steele.



Agonizing over kissing the pig, Lori Steele gets a hog hat put on her head before the ultimate event. She thought football coach Rick Wimmer would win.

INSIDE SCOOP

After a tremendous season of basketball, members of the semi-state finalist team are now willing to let out the reason for bald heads and why they became known as the gorillas.

Players seem to agree that their bald heads carried over from senior Dave Joseforsky's football coif. There's more to it however.

Brett Fedak, sophomore, says, "It's a team thing . . . one guy goes bald, the rest go bald."

Ugliness seems to be a part of it too. "Bald is ugly. It's something different. It exemplifies tough, hard guys," states Zac Wells, senior.

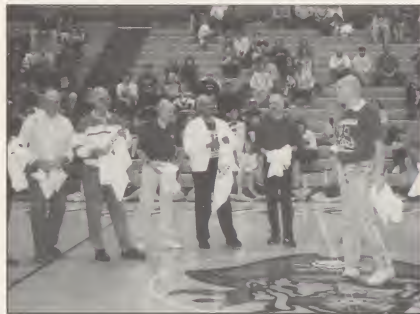
Near the end of the season the school began to go "gorilla crazy"; however, many people still don't know why. Different players have different reasons why they became known as gorillas.

"We played real hard, physical-type basketball, like a gorilla. We had strength," comments senior Adam Byrom.

Other reasons include: the song "Gorillas in the Mist," the fact that the team plays like a bunch of gorillas, are ugly looking, and because Fedak and senior John Skrundz hang on the rim like gorillas.



Brett Tubbs, senior, goes for the free throw during a unified basketball game. The team won the state championship this year.



At the community pep rally held before the basketball team went to Semi-state, the team's fathers adorned bald caps to emulate their sons. A tradition was started this year with all the team members shaving their head before game time.

Guilty. What punishment fits the crime? A panel of teenagers on the jury decides, on teen court that is. What exactly is teen court?

Teen court is no joke. Juveniles ages 11-18 with a first time misdemeanor offense have the choice of going to teen court and having the offense permanently erased from their record or have a hearing by a juvenile judge. The teen court itself consists of teenagers from the area who have gone through a training program and now serve in court.

The procedures are the same as a real court and just as serious. However, the only thing teen court can do is to pass sentence. The parties involved have already received a guilty verdict. Types of sentences they choose are thirty hours of community service, essays, counseling, or cash payment all depending on the crime.

The court is held at the Crown Point government complex under the supervision of teen court coordinator Sandra Porter. The court meets the first and third Tuesday of every month, serving five cases each night. Common cases are shoplifting, juvenile drinking, or driving without a license.

Teen court is good experience for those interested in a career in law. Denise Gilbey, sophomore, said "It's like a real courtroom. You get real nervous the first time you get up there. No matter how long you go to law school, the experience of the actual courtroom does not compare." The court sees around 150 cases a year according to Gilbey.

"Teen court is a good way to give people who just make bad judgments once or twice a second chance."

**Monica Braden,
junior**

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EARNING AWARDS

Thirty-one scholarships in one night, May 19. Over fifty awards and more than three hundred recipients. Three hours of the best the school has to offer. It wasn't the Oscars, or even the Emmy's, it was awards night at Reinhardt Auditorium.

To seniors, awards night represents the completion of their high school career, academically. On this night the outstanding students of the class of 1993 were presented with the honors they worked so hard for.

Of the thirty-one scholarships

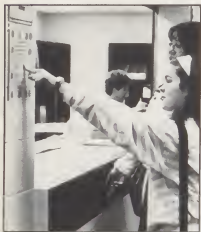
awarded, nine were from colleges and universities. Paula Pastor received a scholarship to DePaul, Heather Stompor to Indiana State, and Margaret Holland, Heather Holland, and Kelly Johnson to Indiana University Northwest. Juanita Toledo was awarded a scholarship to Knox College, James Lesniak to Lawrence University, Dallas Weills to the University of Evansville, Alan Hepp to the University of Oklahoma, and John Duplaga and Charles Stapinski to Wabash.

The Skinner Scholarship rewarded seven outstanding students, Heather Gallimore, Fred Hong, Linda Polomchak, Tamara Robinson, Christine Sikora, Charles Stapinski, and Patrick Tsai.

Besides the scholarships being presented, awards were given to outstanding academic teams and individuals. The Academic Decathlon Team, Academic Spell Bowl Team, and the Academic Super Bowl Team were all honored for their success throughout the year. Three students did what many deemed impos-

sible, four years of perfect attendance. These students were May Lee, Celin Paz, and Patrick Tsai, all seniors.

Other awards were given to Alan Hepp and Patrick Tsai, for being AP Scholars. Hoosier Scholar awards went to Melissa Buggie, Thomas Dziubla, and Kristy Putnam. National Merit Finalists were Linda Polomchak, Alan Hepp, and Patrick Tsai. It was also formally announced that James Lesniak was the class salutatorian, and Linda Polomchak and Patrick Tsai the valedictorians.



Two students check out the prices on balloons as they plan to order a surprise for a friend. Balloon orders could be placed at the bookstore at lunch or in the media center throughout the day. The balloons were delivered sixth hour.



Dressed in a beautiful authentic costume, Monica Origel, junior, dances a traditional Mexican dance as a part of the Multi Cultural Awareness Task Force celebration of Cinco de Mayo. The performances, costumes, and music were an attempt to teach others about Mexico.



Freshman Lindsey Ruesch enjoys a dance with her father at the annual Mommy and Daddy date night held in the high school cafeteria.

Cinco de Mayo. The fifth of May is a special day, especially for Mexican students. The Multi Cultural Awareness Task Force joined with several students to present a Mexican awareness program during fifth hour on May 5.

The program, which was similar to a black history awareness presentation earlier in the school year, was performed by MHS students of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Indian descent in order to educate other students about Mexican history, customs, and culture.

The history of Mexico provided a break between numbers such as the Mexican national anthem, a narrated song about migrant workers, dances, and performances by the MHS jazz band, and the Marrachi Band from East Chicago Central at the second convocation.

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The softball team did what the football team and the basketball team couldn't when they beat Western for the state title. Near-perfect pitching by Leah Frink, sophomore, errorless defense, and solid hitting lead MHS to a 5-1 victory in the championship game.

Frink had a perfect game going for six innings before Western finally scored their lone run in the seventh breaking Frink's string of 44 scoreless innings. However, by then Merrillville had a 5-0 lead. Coach Bob Bergeson had told Frink before the game, "Make them beat you, don't beat yourself."

Bergeson credits the rough schedule the team plays with making them tough enough to take the pressure of playing for the state championship. He commented, "Playing the Lake Central's, Elkhart Central's, and Valparaiso's makes you tougher. It proved invaluable today because we didn't fold under pressure."

Merrillville took a 1-0 lead in the third and then broke open a close game with four runs in the sixth. Catcher Patti Craig, junior, said, "After the first run we scored I knew we could go on from there. Since we scored a run we had the confidence we knew we could score more."

"This was a united effort by everybody. All 18 players, three coaches and those up in the stands."

Coach Bob Bergeson



Chrissy Pozgay and Patti Craig, juniors, and Jennifer Heminger, senior, leave the field after defeating New Albany in the afternoon game in their march to a state championship. The Pirates, who were 24-7 for the season, went on to beat Western 5-1 in the title game.

ne

"I was trying not to smile in the seventh because I knew we were going to do it. My defense was great, and it doesn't matter to me that they scored a run or not."

Leah Frink, sophomore

SEEKING HONORS

Next April *Redbook* magazine will feature high schools worthy of recognition throughout the nation. Consequently, the Indiana Department of Education's Betty Johnson is inviting MHS to compete for the honor.

To be in *Redbook*, an essay explaining why MHS deserves

recognition must be completed. Three things must be taken into account. First, the community setting; second, the school's programming; and third, the students' achievements. Also included in the requirements for the entry are the specific challenges that were overcome by students, teachers and par-

ents for success. The essay must tell how MHS could be a model for other schools throughout the nation. Up to one hundred pages can be submitted in the category "overall excellence" which is the category MHS chose to enter in addition to pictures of various aspects of the school.

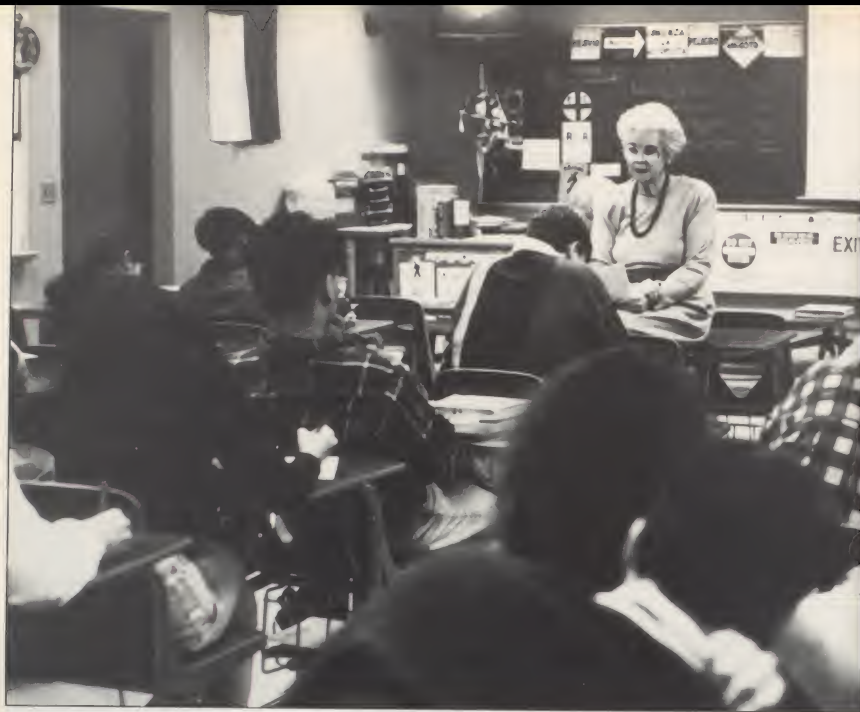
MORE *than a grade*

Throughout the school we explored new concepts and ideas. New classrooms were finished and classes moved in. Amid all the courses, notes, and quizzes we concluded that school is *more than a grade*. In order to be *more* involved, we participated in a variety of extra-curricular activities. Some clubs, such as Spell Bowl kept us striving for knowledge. Other clubs like Student Government, National Honor Society, and Sunshine Society provided services for the community proving school really is *more than a grade*.



What are we doing today? First year social studies teacher Kristi Corsaro goes over the day's assignment with her sociology class. Corsaro gained a reputation for interesting teaching methods which made her classes fun for the students.






Asking her students to "repita." Mary Jeffries, foreign language teacher, goes over the third year conversation questions. At the end of the year, teachers test students on them. The questions accumulate after every year.

Conjugating verbs. Grammar is a very important part of any language. Maryann Bertram, foreign language teacher, stresses the different tenses to second year Spanish students.





Each foreign language has its advantages

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

BY ALAN HEPP

Have you ever noticed that there seems to be a bit of pride when it comes to a foreign language? Students claim that their language is the best and that all of the others are terrible. Well, every language holds some advantage over the others but taking any language is better than none.

According to Mrs. Mary Jeffries, "The United States, at present, is at the Bilingual stage- Hispanics make up nearly 1/2 of the population. Because of this, positions for those who can speak Spanish are available in almost every job or profession. Added to other credentials, knowing Spanish increases job opportunities."

For the German side, Mr. Hamilton stated, "Students take German over the other languages for a number of reasons. A great

number feel it will be useful to them in college, especially those students who are planning on careers in the technical fields, such as engineering and science."

Miss Spiro argued

"Positions for those who can speak Spanish are available in almost every job or profession."
Mary Jeffries,
Spanish teacher

the French side by replying, "French is one of the main languages in the world. French is spoken in Canada, Europe and Africa (to name a few). When the European Community begins, people in business will find French is

one of the languages needed to do business in Europe."

All of these are valid reasons for taking foreign languages as students, but what is in it for the teachers?

Mr. Hamilton replied, "I teach because I have a good time doing it. The personal rewards of seeing my students do well in German both here in Merrillville and at college are very gratifying. I am proud that a number of my former students have gone on to become German teachers; that is a really great feeling."

On the other hand Miss Spiro said, "I enjoy the sound of the French. The French culture is interesting to me. France is a wonderful place to see (for its history, culture & language."

Fall of communism
bring interest in the
Russian language

RUSSIAN DEBUTS

BY STACI SKURA

hat? "Kak Gilia." Bad connection? No, it's the new Russian class here at MHS. As the lights, ceilings, and other fixtures go up, and construction workers struggle to meet their deadlines, a corner of the school concentrates on their Russian vocabulary.

The Russian class was adopted back in the spring of 1991 when Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, principal; Sherman Lewis, head of guidance; and Mary Lou Sproat, director of media services; attended a presentation at a school offering Russian. In order to receive the new program, the administration had to go through a number of tasks before IHETS (Indiana Higher Education Telecommunications System) would even consider our request.

First, a sponsor was needed. Ball State University became MHS's. Then the administration had to conduct a survey to calculate the level of interest among students for a new foreign language. At first, the Russian and Chinese program was on the agenda for this year but a slightly

larger number of students signed up for Russian. The school could only choose one or the other because the two classes were offered at the same time during the day so they chose Russian.

According to Lewis, "Now Russian is the class at MHS. Next year it will be second year Russian. As I understand it, there will be no first year Russian next year, but after two years of Russian, Chinese will be offered for two years."

The level of interest is expected to rise in the next few years. More businesses and trades are becoming Russian oriented since the fall of communism.

Nick Orlich, sophomore, currently in the program says, "I joined because it's one of the closest languages to Serbian."

Erin Yeoman, junior commented, "I knew Russian would be different from anything else, and I really wanted something new." She added, "There is a big difference. In Russian, there are 31 letters and many are different in sound and shape."

Even though the program was

offered at the beginning of the year, getting the program started wasn't completely smooth. The VIS system's microwave tower wasn't hooked up and the classes were being taped at Indiana University Northwest. Sproat had to go to IUN everyday to get the tapes. It made it quite difficult because the class at MHS was a day behind for awhile. In addition, the Russian textbooks didn't arrive until in early November.

In spite of all the difficulties getting the class started, things finally settled into a pattern. The students communicate with their teacher at Ball State by calling on a phone. The questions are heard by the class that is actually there and the five classes that get it via satellite. Although some students didn't sign up for the class because they thought it would be too hard to learn from a television and a teacher hundreds of miles away, students taking the class don't find that a problem. "The satellite is the most ingenious invention. It can teach students around the world," states Jason Galoozis, junior.

MHS Russian students say they call more than any of the other schools. Orlich calls at least five times a day and Galoozis said MHS calls on a 3:1 ratio compared to the other schools.

Lori Steele is the teacher at MHS. The teacher at Ball State is Heather Hober.

What will these students do with Russian? Yeoman says, "I plan on being a pilot and I hope to go to Russia when I can."

Others like Galoozis and Orlich have other plans for their Russian knowledge. Galoozis comments, "My plans are to use Russian on my job applications." Some businesses like McDonalds and Eli Lilly are looking for Americans who speak Russian. The government of Russia is becoming more democratic; therefore, the public is looking for more transactions with the American people. When they do this they want people who can speak the Russian language and understand their culture.

As for Orlich, he says, "Russian looks good on college resumes."



FRENCH CLUB - Row 1: Angie Packowski, Jamie Laschenik, Margaret Holland, Heather Stomper, Kathy Almonre, Sarah Bernstein, Linda Polomchak, Ms. Spiro. Row 2: Sonja Doneski, Lisa Dimitroff, Touda Vasilopoulos, May Lee, Molly Bernstein, Melissa Skatsky, Angie Correa, Mike Valenti. Row 3: Stephanie Perryman, Beth Hoffield, Heather Gallimore, Megan Moloney, Kim Richardson, Sunnye Durham, Mandy Olejnik.



GERMAN CLUB - Row 1: Anthony Vassalo, Ricky Brodner, Tom Dziubla, Grant Miller, Jerry Hegedus, Robby Brodner, Patrick Tsai. Row 2: John Lambert, Mike Fratscher, Michelle Laspas, Kelly Hegedus, Dana Schilling, Bob Daumer, Tony Walla, Mr. Hamilton. Row 3: Marc Vassalo, Gil-Hwee Lee, Allison Rimer, Ann Gorman, David Greenburg. Row 4: John Duplaja, Jason Wojciechowski, Tanya McDonald, Chuck Stupinski.



Reviewing for a quiz.

Ray Hamilton, foreign language teacher, points out German sentence structure. Besides teaching German, Hamilton also sponsors the German club.

Parlez vous francais?

Madeline Wilson, foreign language teacher, teaches her class the fine art of a different language. Wilson teaches two foreign languages, Spanish and French.



SPANISH CLUB - ROW 1: Cynthia Garcia, Renee Dunn, Wanda Olvera, Amy DeNardo, Joanne Samuel. Row 2: Mrs. Maryanne Bertram, Summer Dickens, Belinda Medellin, Deidre Elidondo, Lauren Peters. Row 3: Raquel Garcia, Wilfred Vivo, Scott Mytek, Dina Weiss. Row 4: William Newman, Fred Hong.



JETS - Row 1: Tammy Robinson, Manjula Samuel, May Lee, Gil-Hwei Lee, Heather Gallimore. Row 2: Dan Folz, Patrick Tsai, Jason Dojabowski, Tom Dziubla, Rob Brodner. Row 3: Jerry Hegeduis, Rob Sell, Tom Tripp, Larry Schiefer.

*Honor Society
activities give
satisfaction*

MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE

BY ALAN HEPP

Homework. Activities. Studying. Good Grades. All of these things go through the minds of the National Honor Society members. Indeed, it is sometimes difficult to handle all of the pressure. So how do students cope? Good question. Patrick Tsai, co-valedictorian, stated, "I study hard to maintain my G.P.A. and all the other requirements." However, some students don't feel that it is a problem. "I don't consider it a pressure," said Heather Gallimore, senior. Candy Shultz, senior, added humorously, "As soon as I see some, I'll let you know."

In order to be a member of the National Honor Society, a student must maintain a 3.3 grade point average, be at least a junior, and participate in activities outside of the classroom. Also, the students must demonstrate character and good leadership skills.

The Honor Society participated in a variety of

events in the 1992-93 school year. From singing at the Towne Center to a fun filled day at Great America, the Honor Society did it all. "We have a lot of fun in Honor Society. I love doing all of the activities and being with all of the members. Even the sponsors are cool. Mrs. Battistini and Mrs. Ambroziak are the

"My favorite moment was when we went to the Radisson for lunch and then to McDonalds for sundaes."

Candy Shultz, senior

greatest," said Kim Richardson, senior.

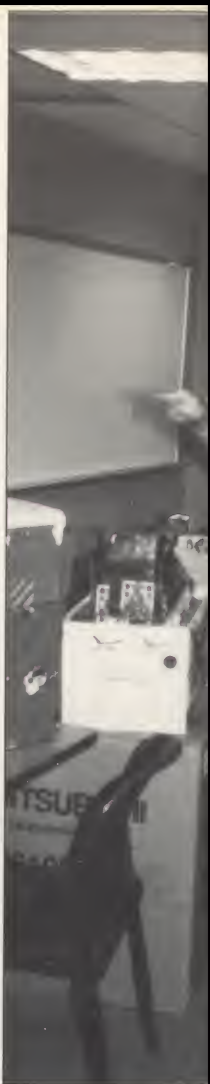
Another big event of the National Honor Society was the Trivia Challenge hosted in March. Students competed as homerooms in a trivia competition. The winners of the homeroom com-

petition faced a tough faculty and got blown out. The event raised money for Honor Society.

Honor Society also helps the elderly. Annual trips to the Towne Center are taken each Christmas. The group sang carols and passed out candy.

As with any activity, certain moments stand out in one's mind. For Heather Gallimore they were, "The appreciation shown on the faces of all those that we helped. The people at the Towne Center and the parishioners at St.. Peter & Paul food pantry." Shultz said, "My favorite moment was when we went to the Radisson for lunch and then to McDonalds for sundaes."

So all of you people who think that you've got what it takes, try to become a member of the National Honor Society. For all of you who complain that you have too much to do, look at these people and reevaluate your situation.





Getting organized.

Beverly Ambroziak, business teacher, rounds up the National Honor Society to help deliver gifts. National Honor Society joined Student Government in sponsoring an adopt-a-child for Christmas program. Nearly all homeroom bought gifts for needy children.

Presenting the John Krysa award. Senior David Joseforsky, National Honor Society President, meets with Pierce Middle School principal Jerry Niemeyer and a student. The Honor Society awarded students at both middle schools for outstanding achievements.



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (SENIORS) - Row 1: Margaret Holland, Maragret Toledo, Melissa Buggle, Heather Gallimore, May Lee, Tammy Robinson. Row 2: Patrick Tsai, Kelly Johnson, Amy Denham, Candy Shultz, Tania McDonald, Heather Holland, Chuck Stapsinski. Row 3: Jim Lesniak, Linda Polomchak, Hope Jusko, Karyn Durkin, Kristina Phillips, Tina Skiora, Allison Krysa, Bill Newsman, Fred Hong, Maryanne Battistini. Row 4: Dallas Wells, Erik Smith, David Joseforsky, Robert Sell, Alan Hepp, Rob Brodner, Tom Dziabla, Jeremy Vargas, Beverly Ambroziak.



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (JUNIORS) - Row 1: Tony Wall, Ted Phillips, Jenny Krol, Tim Lavery, Wilfred Vivo. Row 2: Kristina Rice, Wanda Olvera, Allison Rimer, Ann Gorman, Rene Dunn, Sunnye Durham, Gil-Hwei Lee. Row 3: Becky Schreiber, Jennifer Bryan, Sarah Parrish, Manjula Samuel, Abigail Igarta, Karen Kessler, Krista Richardson, Megan Evans. Row 4: Jenny Shaffer, Benita Cockston, Monica Braden, Julie Obetkovski, Jackie Harms, Christina Moffitt, Angela Byron, Maryanne Battistini. Row 5: Mike Cudhaar, Mike Pratscher, Tony Vassallo, Trajee Niceski, Tim Aliff, Mike Gearhart, John Sell, Beverly Ambroziak.

Eating their way to success, Manjula Samuel, Kirsten Olson, Bob Daumer, and Jim Lesniak enjoy Mrs. Evelyn Steiner's sloppy joe and practice session before the competition that sent three teams to the State finals.

*Academic teams
showing their
muscle power*

DECATHLON QUALIFIES

By ZAC WELLS

he football and basketball teams didn't do it. Neither did the wrestling or gymnastics teams. But, if you ask the seven individuals who participated in the Academic Decathlon. They can proudly say that they did it. **They went to state.**

Despite much diversity, the Academic Decathlon team placed 10th out of approximately 90 schools in the state. "The team fared okay, but not as good as I had hoped. Overall we improved from last year, but sickness really hurt our team. A number of people were sick for the state meet," said Patrick Tsai, senior member.

Preparation is just as much a part of the decathlon as it is to any sport. Gil-Hwei Lee, junior states, "Decathlon starts in September when we start looking up information on the various topics."

James Edgcomb, Academic Decathlon sponsor continued by saying, "The kids listened to tapes on their own, researched and reviewed material,

When asked how to prepare, Patrick Tsai, senior, replied, "Study, research, read. Oh! And swim, play pool, and video games at the Holidome in Indy."

viewed slides on fine art, and met with Mr. Yelton for help in chemistry."

After all the preparation was done, the fun began. By the time the competition rolled around, all the

hours of dedication had finally paid off. "Overall, the activities were fun and I enjoyed the competition. Even though it was very strenuous," stated Lee.

For those people that think you have to be a brain child or have no will for fun to participate in Academic Decathlon. There are those who offer objection. According to the Academic Decathlon handbook, each of the teams must be composed of two or three members of the "A," "B," and "C" grade point categories. And when asked on how to prepare for a competition, Tsai replies, "Study, research, read. Oh! And swim, play pool, and video games at the Holidome in Indy."

Even though Merrillville is getting more and more recognition athletically, it's the academic part that opposing schools will soon begin to fear.





ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM - Row 1: Gil-Hwei Lee, Joanne Samuel, Kelly Johnson, May Lee. Row 2: Bruce Woods, Patrick Tsai, Gary Lucia, Jim Edcomb. Row 3: Jennifer Shaffer.



QUIZ BOWL TEAM - Row 1: Joanne Samuel, Kristen Olson. Row 2: May Lee, Margaret Holland, Jennifer Shaffer, Gil-Hwei Lee. Row 3: Patrick Tsai, Mike Cardwell, Jim Lesniak.



SPELL BOWL TEAM - Row 1: Kristen Olson, Joanne Samuel, Gil-Hwei Lee, Jim Lesniak. Row 2: May Lee, Patrick Tsai, Becky Berdine, Amy Denham.



SUPER BOWL TEAM - Row 1: Tina Yurechko, Joanne Samuel, Manjula Samuel, May Lee. Row 2: Amy Denham, Lauren Peters, Kristen Olson, Kelly Johnson, Mrs. Evelyn Steiner. Row 3: Patrick Tsai, Shan-Hwei Lee, Gil-Hwei Lee, Jennifer Shaffer, Becky Berdine. Row 4: Steve Devillez, Jim Lesniak, Mike Cardwell, Bob Daumer.

It's a long ride for a field trip. Junior Sunnye Durham settles in for the bus ride to Journalism Day at Ball State University. Publications students had the opportunity to attend classes and share ideas with high school students from all over the state.

When do we have to go to press? Page editor Cathy Navarro, junior, works to finish her page. Deadlines tended to become hectic because students put off doing their assignments until the last minute. Nevertheless, the paper always made it to press somehow.



LITERARY MAGAZINE - Row 1: April Henry, Bob Daumer, Dina Weis. Row 2: Mike Pratscher, Mike Zolfo.



MERRILLVUE STAFF - Row 1: Lynn Holley, Erin O'Deen, Jean Stanford. Row 2: Tom Gayda, Valerie Miller, Kim Richardson, Ryan Schafer. Row 3: Zac Wells, Alan Hepp, George Vasilopoulos.

Production week
deadlines are
strictly enforced

MEETING DEADLINES

By JULIE OBETKOVSKI

ays of hardwork. Sleepless nights.

That's how the week before deadlines for newspaper or yearbook is. Staffers try to be in ten places at once. The first set of deadlines is story deadlines.

"Deadlines are rarely kept exactly on time. Eventually, they are done because the staff knows they need to be done. Everything pulls together at the end," Staci Skura, junior, said.

Some of these deadlines will be missed because staffers didn't do their research or the person they needed to interview is unavailable. Stories will come in a day or two later than normally planned. These deadlines are not enforced as much as later ones.

The production deadlines are very strict. They have to be kept. If these deadlines are

missed, the staff will not be sure that they will get the newspaper or yearbook out in time because they have to wait until the printer has

"Deadlines are rarely kept exactly on time. Eventually, they are done because the staff knows they need to be done. Everything pulls together at the end."

Staci Skura, junior

an opening in the press schedule. This opening may be the same day or it may not be for several days depending on how full the press schedule is.

Most of the time Dave Savage at the Merrillville Herald where *the Mirror* is printed is very helpful. But sometimes there is nothing he can do.

Failing to meet a yearbook deadline can prove to be costly as well. If the staff misses a color deadline yearbook companies charge late fees by the day. This can get very expensive.

The hardest thing about meeting some deadlines is when you have to depend on someone else for a story and they are late. Occasionally, they don't write the story at all and it has to be reassigned.

In the end, *the Mirror* gets published and the *Merrillvue* is distributed. As Olivia Dojcinovski, junior, commented, "We managed it even though some deadlines weren't kept."



THE MIRROR STAFF - Row 1: Kristen Kirn, Cathy Navarro, Sunnye Durham, Jean Stanford. Row 2: Christine Onoff, Dina Weis, Staci Skura, Olivia Dojcinovski, Shannon Bondra. Row 3: Tom Gayda, Julie Obetkovski, David Evans, Justin Ramage, Leona Bundo.



QUILL AND SCROLL INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISM HONORARY - Row 1: Staci Skura, Dina Weis, Sunnye Durham, Cathy Navarro, Kristen Kirn. Row 2: Valerie Miller, Leona Bundo, Christine Onoff, Julie Obetkovski, Jean Stanford. Row 3: Tom Gayda, Zac Wells, Alan Hepp, Kim Richardson.

*Representatives
keep busy with
government*

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

What are you doing on Wednesday after school? If you're a member of Student Government, you're probably attending a meeting.

Student government is made up of a representative from every homeroom and the officers who were elected last spring.

Student Government started the year with an unsuccessful Back-to-School dance. President Chuck Stapinski, senior, then welcomed everyone back and explained the group's goals for the year in a letter to the editor of the Mirror.

Over the course of the year, Student Government was one of the most active groups in the school. In addition to planning homecoming spirit week, the group also sponsored a Mr. Betty Crocker contest to raise money to help victims of Hurricane Andrew.

With homecoming out of the way, Student Government started planning their

Thanksgiving Food Drive.

Student Government sponsor Rosellen Kozel explained, "We resolved

**"We resolved that
the food drive
wasn't the most
effective method.
Nobody was really
interested in bringing
canned goods to
school."**

**Rosellen Kozel,
Student Government
sponsor**

that the food drive wasn't the most effective method. Nobody was really interested in bringing canned goods to school." Instead there was to be a "penny pincher" for Thanksgiving. Four containers were put out at the bookstore, one for

each class, with a contest to see which class contributed the most money. The proceeds were converted into gift certificates for turkeys and given to Ross Township.

At Christmas, Student Government teamed up with National Honor Society for their Adopt-a-Child Christmas Wish project.

Plans for spring include a Spirit Link Contest with the seniors and juniors competing and the sophomores and freshmen. Class officers for the losing class will receive a pie in the face from the winning class's officers during half-time at a basketball game.

In addition, there will be a Kiss the Pig Contest. Students will vote for the teacher or administrator they would like to see "kiss the pig" at half-time of a basketball game.

To end the year, the group must oversee the election of next year's officers.



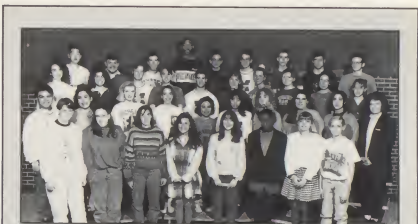


Being a good sport.

Coach Lori Steele holds her new friend the pot-bellied pig. Although she urged students to vote for Coach Rick Wimmer, Steele won the contest sponsored by Student Government to see who got to kiss the little porker.

Sharing a smile.

Student Government vice president George Vasilopoulos and National Honor Society president Dave Joseforsky, seniors, wait for the bus to arrive so the two groups can begin delivering the Adopt-a-child gifts to the elementary schools.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT - Row 1: Bob Daumer, Dina Weis, Tania McDonald, Cathy Almone, Irene Halkias, Tammy Robinson, Julia Zolundz, Dave Kordys. Row 2: Wilfred Vivo, Cathy Navarro, Mandy Olejnik, Pam Ruschak, Tiffany Vivo, Abigail Igarta, Erin Jones, Debbie Jones, Debbie Kings, Toulia Vasilopoulos, Mrs. Rosellen Kozel. Row 3: Monica Braden, Angie Stapinski, Brian Lehr, Jenny Smith, Chuck Stapinski, Benita Cookston, Tina Sikora, Judy Jennings, Becky Schreiber. Row 4: Fred Hong, Greg Thiros, Jim Wirtes, Erick Smith, Ryan Seiberling, Gary Lucia, Anthony Vasallo, Jon Lambert.



STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL - Row 1: Toulia Vasilopoulos, Irene Halkias, Cathy Almone, Tammy Robinson. Row 2: Abigail Igarta, Benita Cookston, Debbie Kings. Row 3: Ryan Seiberling, Monica Braden, Ryan Brown.

*SADD and Quest
attempt to curb
substance abuse*

FIGHT ABUSE

By RYAN SCHAFER

The SADD Club (Student's Against Driving Drunk) is a club that was organized to promote a drug free school at Merrillville High School. This club consists of students who have vowed to be alcohol and drug free. At the beginning of the year the students signed a contract type paper signifying there alcohol and drug free life.

This year SADD promoted Red Ribbon week. This is a promotion kicked off by the Lake County Police, Merrillville Police and other neighboring communities. The first night of this program was ended with a candle light walk that took place from Pierce Jr. High to the Merrillville Town Hall.

Another encouraging tasks that SADD sponsored was MORP, Prom spelled backwards, which was co-sponsored by MHS Student Government. This was a

dance that was to promote a drug and alcohol free prom and graduation celebration. SADD asked every student to sign a link with their name on it and these links were used as decoration. The significance of these links were to show that everyone in MHS are all linked together as one big family.

Finally, this organizations final effort of the year is the visit of the Grim Reaper. Grim visits MHS to kick off the prom season. He is here to inform everyone to have a safe prom night. If you go against him you may wind up being and looking like him.

Grim takes a student out of class every 22 minutes. This is to show that a student dies every 22 minutes from an alcohol related accident. Also, this makes students stop and think about drinking and driving and how it really does cause

death. With the visit of the Reaper everyone that participated did their part in the program.

A person was pulled from class every 22 minutes in the day by the Grim Reaper. After being caught, the student or teacher was taken to the library where they had their face painted white. For the rest of the day these individuals were not to talk to anyone who was alive, only those who were dead.

Those whom the Reaper chose to befriend for the day were:

D a m o n
Derico, freshman; Alan Hepp, senior; Megan Evans, junior; Erik Smith, senior; Coach Lori Steele, physical education teacher; David Joseforsky, senior; Patty Traficante, senior; Shannon Bukovac, sophomore; and Jim Maness, senior.



Making a point
SADD Club members Jeannette Jones, Matt Sell, and Sam Barnett march through Merrillville in a candlelight vigil during National Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week has come to symbolize America's fight against drugs.



QUEST - Row 1: Brian Minniger, Fred Hong, Mike Menendez. Row 2: Krystal Releford, Yolanda Brown, Ryan Sieberling. Row 3: Raquel Garcia, Melissa Stetler, Tammy Robinson, Jerry Kasarda, Tommy Gasperson.



SADD - Row 1: Wendy Swanke, Mike Menendez, Cathy Almone, Brian Minniger. Row 2: Brian Lehr, Sara Hummel, Mario Butler-DelRio, Melissa Buggie, Janette Jones, Jenny Smith. Row 3: Fred Hong, Tommy Gasperson, Tammy Robinson, Krystal Releford, Kristy Putnam, Raquel Garcia, Jesse Stoner, Mrs. Lynn Praschak.

Helping out during the holidays, seniors Jill Seale and friend play Santa to take collections for the Salvation army.

Members of the Key Club gather in front of Pizza Hut after a club activity. The Key Club is one of many clubs that help service the community.

MHS clubs attempt to aid others

COMMUNITY SERVICE

By LYNN HOLLEY

ood drives, fund raisers, and cleaning up the area are just a few of the ways that clubs at MHS can help out the community and the people.

"The Environment Club plays an active part in keeping the community clean," said Tom Dziubla, senior.

The environmental club is the biggest contributor to the community.

"Jill Seale, senior, has sponsored MHS with programs such as the Indiana Beach Sweep and Adopt a Highway. Both are attempts at keeping the community clean. The club also plans on making bat houses in order to halt the diminishing bat population (which keeps the insect population down)," added Dziubla.

Another club that helps out the community as well as the people is the Sunshine

Society. "Every year we donate a sum of money to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis," said Randi Childress, senior.

"Jill Seale, senior, has sponsored MHS with programs such as the Indiana Beach Sweep and Adopt a Highway. Both are attempts at keeping the community clean."

Tom Dziubla, senior

"This year the Change War was our fundraiser which raised \$1,050. Also, we donated to the Salvation Army and the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Every Christmas we go caroling at Towne Center Nursing Home," commented Childress.

Under the direction of new sponsor Andrea Rybolt, science teacher, the Sunshine Society was very active. "This year we sponsored the Teacher's Breakfast, the Valentine's Dance, and had Sunshine Week," explained Melissa Buggie, senior.

The MHS chapter of Key Club International also contributes to the community. Their biggest contribution is collecting toys for disadvantaged children at Christmas.

These are just a few of the ways in which clubs at MHS can help out the community and its people. Every year more and more clubs become involved in issues that concern them and how they live. If people don't start being more concerned with environmental problems, then their children are going to suffer worse than they did.





ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB - Row 1: Jenny Duplaga, Kristina Phillips, Chuck Stapinski, Tania McDonald, Kelly Johnson. Row 2: Shan-Hwei Lee, Candy Shultz, Jamie Lashenik, Stephanie Perryman, Leanne Forbes, Kristen Olson. Row 3: Jeff Velton, Jon Lambert, Fred Hong.



GAMES CLUB - Row 1: Patrick Tsai, Vincent Horbach. Row 2: Brian Shultz, Jeremy Vargas.



KEY CLUB - Row 1: Jenny Duplaga, Leanne Forbes, Yvonne Escott, Joanne Samuel. Row 2: Amy Siefert, Dionne Plascencia, Sarah Lockhart, Cindy Frost. Row 3: Jill Seale, Warren Martinez, Amy Pickard, Maggie Samson.



SUNSHINE SOCIETY - Row 1: Andrea Rybolt, Marty Johnson, Juanita Toledo, Melissa Buggle, Jamie Childress. Row 2: Lisa Van Berg, Randi Childress, April Selagy. Row 3: Brian Lehr, Jenny Smith

*FHA wins award
for community
service project*

COMMUNITY PROJECT

By JUSTIN RAMAGE

In a cold, icy night in February, 41 special education students plus alumni slipped and slid their way to school for the Valentine's Day Dance held for them by the MHS Chapter of Future Homemakers of America.

Although the weather was cold outside, the atmosphere was warm and friendly inside. According to Carol Von Behren, home economics teacher, the dance was such a huge success that FHA members are planning to expand to additional activities next year.

The FHA Chapter also en-

tered their Valentine's Dance in the 1993 Nutra Sweet Giving 100% contest for commu-

According to Carol Von Behren, home economics teacher, the dance was such a huge success that FHA members are planning to expand to additional activities next year.

nity service.

To enter the contest, the

FHA members had to identify a community need, establish a goal with clear definite objectives, and form a plan stressing innovative approaches to addressing the community need. They then had to find resources that could help and conduct an indepth project starting early in the year.

At the state FHA meeting in the spring, members found out that they had won the contest on the state level, including a \$500 prize. Their entry then competes in the national contest for the \$1,500 top prize.



COOPERATIVE OFFICE EDUCATIONAL - Row 1: Olga Fontanez, Heather Hall, Sara Ortegón, Brandi Cheers, Susie Waters. Row 2: Janis Mayer, Tracie Sparks, Kim Smith, Melinda Strong.



FUTURE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION - Row 1: Marc Holm, Bab Daumer, Paulyn Michael, Janis Lasbenik. Row 2: Wendy Adams, Cathy Almone, Deldra Elizondo, Summer Dickens, Crystal Reiford. Row 3: Benita Cookston, Christina Moffitt, Marie Foster.



Happily measuring out Crisco, Michelle Ensign, junior, prepares a recipe. Home. Ec. rooms are the only ones at MHS where food is allowed.

Mashing potatoes is one of many activities home. ec. students participate in. The classes prepare a variety of foods each semester.



FUTURE HOMEMAKERS OF AMERICA - Row 1: Bianca Malave, Holly Luedtke, Kathy Rodriguez. Row 2: Kathy Rous, Bernadette Vargas, Kristi Settlemires, Sarah Kendrick. Row 3: Michelle Ensign, Amy Pickard, Colleen Kolsmatka, Caludia Rodriguez.



ATHLETIC TRAINERS - Row 1: Robin Phillips, Kim Simpson, Becky Stinnett. Row 2: Jeff Harpp, Rob Sell.



Working at their own speed.

In special education classes many subjects are taught at the same time allowing each student to achieve success. The drawback is that sometimes it is confusing because so many different things are going on at once.

Taking a break.

A few minutes before the bell, the students kick back and relax just like in many of the other classes. There is a great similarity between special education classes and regular classes because the teachers also teach and care about their students.





*Inclusion is the
newest regulation
for special students*

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The department which had a surge in growth due to the completion of construction was the special education department.

The special education department has several different programs. They are the Severely Emotionally Handicapped, the Mildly Mentally Handicapped, the Moderately Mentally Handicapped, the Severely Mentally Handicapped, and the Physically Handicapped.

Unlike the other department at MHS, the special education department is operated through the Northwest Indiana Special Education Cooperative in Crown Point.

This also means that the special education teachers have another set of laws and guidelines to follow also.

These laws and guidelines have changed immensely since Merrillville first began offering special education in 1971.

The newest law concerning special education concerns inclusion. Very simply, inclusion means that more special education students will be attending regular classes although they may be accompanied by a special education teacher or aide.

Special education teachers not only teach their students the basic skills, but

they show their students the important values that they will need to live in today's society. The classes stress vocational skills and jobs for all areas of disability.

Special education classes offer the opportunity for students to succeed in areas they would not otherwise have. They allow for the development of the potential inherent in each student.

Perhaps the most important things the students are learning is self-control, responsibility, and social skills. These are skills which will be very helpful as inclusion draws them into the classroom.

*Speech strives
to enter the
top four teams*

SPEECH COMPETES

By JULIE OBETKOVSKI

ur season was great. We took home a team trophy at all but 2 meets and we won hundreds of ribbons. Also, our goal next year or the year after that is to beat either Chesterton or Munster at a meet. We came darn close this year. At the Munster meet this year, which had over 40 teams from around the state, we took 5th place behind Munster, Chesterton, Plymouth, and Evansville Reitz. Next year, we want to knock one of those teams out of the top four," Mike Zolfo, head coach of the Speech team, said.

The team has placed in the top 5 in almost every meet. The outlook for the future is bright considering that most of the qualifiers, from sectionals going to regionals, were mostly freshmen and sophomores. The amount of people going to state has doubled since last year. Going to state this year will be Abigail Igarta and Wilfred Vivo, juniors, in Duo and Michelle Laspas, senior, in Radio. The alternatives are Mike Pratscher, junior, in Humorous Interpretation, and Dina Weis, junior, in Oratorical Interpretation.

"I'm elated. I can't wait to go to state. Hopefully, the competition won't be as tough. We (Abby and I) have worked at this, and would really want to place at the state level. So for our performance in our Duo Interpretation of Ted Talley's "Little Footsteps" has become pretty consistent.

With a little more work, we can beat out the competition. It will be a great experience to compete against all the other Duos from the rest of Indiana," Vivo said.

Students stay after at least

"An average speech meet begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. with the award ceremony. Each competitor goes through three rounds of competition and the best eight or nine go on to the final round." Mike Zolfo, speech coach

once a week to practice.

"Most of the time our students come in, read their speech or interpretation piece and then we work on specific areas of the speech that need improvement like movement, gestures, vocal variety, etc. I also do visualizations with the whole team before each meet. What we do is the students either lay on the floor or put their head down at their desk and then I help them first to relax and then to visualize the day of a speech meet. We end the visualization by saying some positive

W
e're leaving when?

Speech team member Cathy Navarro, junior, catches a nap on her way to a meet. The speech team had to catch their bus very early in the morning to attend away meets.

things to ourselves. This whole process takes about 20 minutes. The visualizations we do are similar to what the Olympic athletes and professional sports teams like the Chicago Bulls do. They really serve to (1) get us relaxed and focused and (2) help us to see ourselves competing in a positive way rather than all tense and nervous," Zolfo states.

A typical day at competition is very tiresome.

"An average speech meet begins at 8:00am and ends at 4:00pm with the award ceremony. Each competitor goes through three rounds of competition and the best 8 or 9 go on to a final round. After the final round, the top eight students receive ribbons and the top 8 or 10 teams receive trophies at the award ceremonies," Zolfo continues.

The students are ranked in each round that they compete in. The students that do the best continue to the final round.

"For sectionals, regionals, and state, students get "ups" and "downs" depending upon their rankings. For instance, in a round of 6 competitors, the top three get "up" and the bottom three get "downs." Students keep competing until they have 2 downs or have qualified for the regional or state meet," Zolfo finished.

The speech team has high expectations for the state meet and the coming year.





DEBATE - Row 1: Mrs. Pat Armstrong, Josie Arcina, Jenny Gabriel, Denise Gilbey, Daniela Damjanoski. Row 2: Tatiana Kostur, Laura Filan, Patillia Woods, Latoya Francis. Row 3: Monica Braden, Rachael Torres, Shan-Hwei Lee, Kristen Strawnhun.



SPEECH TEAM - Row 1: Andrea Cutrisa, Angie Correa, Chuck Stupinski, Kevin Newton, Wilfred Vivo, Dian Wels, Christina Moffitt, Beth Hosfeld. Row 2: David Kerdys, Ann DeNardo, Belinda Medellin, Becky Jenkins, Joanne Samuel, Lisa Taylor, Manjula Samuel, Amy DeNardo, Miss Michelle Curtis, Mrs. Mancusi-Shreve. Row 3: Meg Liebenthal, Irene Halkias, April Henry, Shan-Hwei Lee, Patillia Woods, Gina Hampton, Melissa Skratsky, Angie Stupinski, Cheryl Gonzalez. Row 4: Cathy Navarro, Michelle Laupas, Alexis Berta, Marie Foster, Kim Henry, Tonia Vasileopoulos, Jennifer Dalton, Debbie Kings, Michelle Verbi, Rachel Torres, Robert Daumer. Row 5: Mrs. Lorri Covacia, Abigail Igarta, Jason Reed, Fred Hong, Patrick Tsai, Jim Lesniak, Ryan Brown, Mike Pratscher, Ryan Seiberling, Mr. Mike Zolfo.



DRAMA CLUB - Row 1: Angela Correa, Kelly Johnson, Joanne Samuel, Ann DeNardo, Melissa Skratsky. Row 2: Beth Hosfeld, Heather Holland, Margaret Holland, Jennifer Shaffer, Melissa Steiter, Mr. Joe Morrow. Row 3: Tony Walla, Roger Johnson, Judy Jennings, Trey Tristain, Bob Daumer. Row 4: Jim Lesniak, Fred Hong, Jesse Stoner, Ryan Seiberling, Jeremy Vargas, Tom Drishla.



THESPIANS - Row 1: Beth Hosfeld, Kelly Johnson, Margaret Holland, Heather Holland. Row 2: Roger Johnson, Judy Jennings, Trey Tristain, Bob Daumer. Row 3: Ryan Seiberling, Mike Valovcin, Anthony Walla, Mr. Joe Morrow. Row 4: Tom Dzubila, Jesse Stoner, Jeremy Vargas, Fred Hong.




Intently doing their bisection, two biology students concentrate on getting the lab done. Labs are done in all science classes to help students grasp concepts.



Nothing like dissecting right before lunch. Biology students dissect a number of species each year.

Mrs. Papka, student teacher, explains the ins and outs of chemistry to her class. Many teachers get their start student teaching.





*Contest goal
to make task
more difficult*

PHYSICS COMPLICATED

By ALAN HEPP

How many people does it take to screw in a light bulb? Well it's taking the whole A.P. Physics class to do it. Only this is no ordinary light bulb. And these are no ordinary circumstances. On Saturday February 13, 1993 the annual Rube Goldberg Contest took place in Pendleton Heights, Indiana. According to May Lee, senior, the Rube Goldberg Contest is about "making the completion of a simple task complex through lengthy steps." Others give the reason for the contest in more competitive terms. Tom Dziubla cited "winning" as the goal of the contest. Teams had to screw in a light bulb in twenty steps or more. The name of this year's theme was "Einstein gets a bright idea."

Most people took A.P. Physics because they want to become engineers. Heather Gallimore stated, "I

took A.P. Physics "because Mr. Vermillion teaches the class."

The team from Merrillville, under the direction of Mr. Jim Vermillion, is

**According to
May Lee, senior,
the Rube
Goldberg Con-
test is about
"making the
completion of a
simple task
complex through
lengthy steps."**

plan to major in engineering next year and A.P. was the best second year science for that." On the other hand, some students took the class for other reasons. Dan Folz

defending champion. But Shawn Lollis is confident that things will go well. "Ours is better than last years." Jason Wojciechowski added, "We will blow them away."

The students devote a lot of their time to the project. According to Pat Tsai, "We usually work after school and on some Saturdays. We even work occasionally during school when there's a free hour." The students work together and a few of them have specialized jobs. Jerry Hegeduis remarked that his job is "to think of ideas for steps and enhance them so its easier to build."

As competition neared, the preparation intensified. The smell of sawed wood and electric motors permeated the tiny science storage room. Finally the day of the competition arrived.


It's the Mexican Hat dance! Monica Origel, junior, demonstrated several Mexican dances as a part of the Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force's Cinco de Mayo celebration.



Dancing to Marrachi music. Belinda Medellin, senior, dances to music by the East Chicago Central Marrachi Band. Unfortunately the band arrived too late to perform at the first of the two convocations.



MULTI CULTURAL AWARENESS TASK FORCE - Row 1: Rachel Torres, Patrick Tsai, Cathy Almone. Row 2: Tina Yurechko, Joanne Samuel, Lauren Peters, Tammy Robinson, Debbiings. Row 3: Crystal Releford, Kim Richardson, Mr. Kadelac, Kristy Putnam.



Group seeks
to educate
about cultures

CULTURAL AWARENESS

By CHRISTINE ONOFF

Members of the Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force worked diligently on a number of points that will benefit MHS. A 13 month calendar is being designed for assemblies, (one every two months) and also individual speakers for each month.

"Subcommittees are currently setting up the guidelines for speakers and are working on a 13 month calendar (planning assemblies). We are trying to get different parts of the world featured, which depends on the availability of speakers and education of the qualifiers," Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz said.

Also, committee members are working on establishing a statement of philosophy. "This really depends on how you look at our purpose; it depends on identity. (Our philosophy) will be a focal point, everything the group does will revolve around it," Rapacz said.

The MCATF consists of administrators, teachers, parents, and students from different ethnic backgrounds. However, the members share the same basic objective of the committee. Harriette Kelly, freshman, said, "The objective of the group in my opinion is to educate the Merrillville School Community about different cultures and also to attempt to

close the gaps between the races." Joanne Samuel, junior, agrees, "I think (the main objective) is to educate students on how people are different on the outside but pretty much similar on the inside."

"The objective of the group, in my opinion, is to educate the Merrillville School Community about different cultures and also to attempt to close the gaps between the races."

**Harriette Kelly,
freshman**

Also, Rose Smith, parent and MCSC Substitute Teacher, said, "The basic objective of the Multi-Cultural Awareness Task Force is to educate each other about the diversity of each other's cultures and each other; and also to be able to respect and accept the differences."

In addition, the Task Force hopes to begin the "Hall of Flags" next school year. "Basically, we have an arrangement with Miller Elementary School. They are going to have a fair this year and we will purchase the approximately 170 flags from them and we

will hang them in the conference. \$109.75 was collected at the Parent Teacher Conferences to benefit the 'Hall of Flags,'" Rapacz added.

Homerooms will be the United Nations, which would represent a particular country on a first come first served basis. Then, money would be collected from individuals in each homeroom. When enough money is collected, a plaque indicating the donors will accompany the flag.

"I think the 'Hall of Flags' is a good idea because people will be able to see the different flags of the world," Kelly added. "The idea behind the 'Hall of Flags' is to make our presence known and the flags serve as a symbol of our cultural diversity. It also gives other clubs and organizations a chance to make their mark because they can donate flags in their name," Rachel Torres, junior, said.

Smith revealed, "Hall of Flags' awards one the opportunity to see and identify flags from different countries; also to research and collect information if so desired."

Plans for this school year included a Black History convocation, a Cinco De Mayo festival, and numerous guest speakers from various countries.

*Construction
catches up with
industrial arts*

CLASSES COMPLETED

tiences was the name of the game for many of the industrial arts classes this year. It is very difficult if not impossible to provide "hands on" training when you are tucked away in a classroom above the physical education area.

This is exactly where some of the classes, including auto shop, started out because the industrial arts area was under construction. As the year wore on, the industrial arts classes were moved into their own classrooms. By the year's end most industrial arts students were getting the chance to practice the information they had learned in their makeshift classrooms.

However, Dave Teeter's graphic arts classes won the award for most miles traveled. Teeter had to load his class in a school-owned van

and drive them to the bus maintenance building for class. Near the end of the hour, he had to return them

**Dave Teeter's
graphic arts
classes won the
award for
most miles
traveled back
and forth to
the bus main-
tenance build-
ing for class .**

to the high school.

If his class needed to use their camera, this had to be

planned for the beginning or the end of the hour since the camera was temporarily installed in the darkroom in the journalism area.

The only real advantage to this procedure was that the students did get to have some "hands on" time, although they lost their travel time every day.

Having industrial arts classes which didn't meet in their regular classroom required some quick thinking on the part of the teachers who tried to fill the gap with videotapes and interesting lessons from the book.

One class which started out in its classroom was the CAD class taught by industrial arts teachers Mike Krutz and John Seale. The reason for this is probably the location of the CAD lab, in "B" hallway away from the other industrial arts rooms.



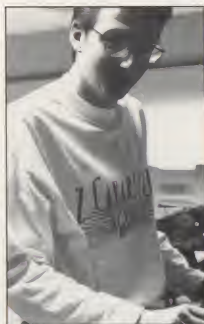


Taking a short break.

Learning electronics isn't easy. Students learn to use a variety of testing equipment which will help them if they choose a career in the field of electronics.

Just push this button.

Junior Jon Lambert demonstrates the laser engraving machine. CAD classes learned to use the engraver and used it to engrave things like key rings.



Making the adjustment.

Working on their cars give auto shop students hands-on experience in how to fix the most common problems. Some of the students will go on to technical school to learn auto mechanics in-depth.

Fine tuning.

An art student adds the detail to her sculpture. Sculpture was one of the many art forms displayed in the art gallery which was named for long time teacher Dr. Eleanor Lewis.




An art student concentrates on his project. One wrong move when working with ink can ruin an art project in which hours have been invested.



Working on a ceramic project, an art student put the finishing touches on her work.





*MHS art classes
prepare students
for many careers*

DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES

Art is everywhere, in the clothes we wear, in the video we watch, in the photography in the magazine you pick up in the doctor's waiting room. Every part of society contains some type of art.

For the serious art student there is a wide variety of classes being offered. Ceramics, drawing, painting, and photography are a few of the areas students can choose to study.

These classes help give the student who is interested in a career in art a head start.

Art is a very diverse field offering many different types of jobs. First, there are the traditional jobs; such as, illustrating, free lance work, and cartooning.

However, like many other fields, computers have opened the door to a wide variety of other jobs making computer training a necessity for entering some fields of art.

"Now, with the right

**Seniors Christina
Briggs, Amber
Pusateri, Tina
Sikora, and Laura
Terek, junior, won
silver keys in the
1993 Scholastic Art
awards regional
competition.**

training, people can be graphic designers or computer designers," said Dr. Eleanor Lewis.

Other potential careers for artists can be found in

interior design, photography, museums, architecture, and advertising to name a few. Many other related careers also require an art background.

Unfortunately for those seeking a career in art, competition for the jobs available is fierce. This means that a person must not only be talented, but must be willing to work hard if he or she wants a career in art.

To help prepare students for the tough world of professional art, the MHS art department offers a number of advanced courses. When a student has exhausted the art courses in the curriculum, independent study provides an additional option for the serious art student.

Working on a paper, an English student puts the final touches on a composition. All English classes are required to write types of papers.

*Computers keep
MHS students on
the cutting edge*

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Computers - they're the way of the future. The time is expected to come when we shop, pay our bills, and go to school by computer.

At Merrillville High School computers are becoming a way of life for the student body as computer labs come on line around the school.

The English department has five computer labs being used to learn to write better papers. Writing programs allow prewriting and revision to be stressed. Other programs foster critical thinking about novels taught in literature classes.

Computer labs are used in other departments too. The business department, math, industrial arts, and even publications all depend

on their computer labs.

The CAD lab, like the others in the building, is used to keep the students on the

Computer skills are in great demand in the business sector of the community.

cutting edge of things that are happening in the industry.

Computer skills are in great demand in the busi-

ness sector of the community. Knowing how to use a computer should prove to be a help to students going on to higher education as well as those searching for a job.

In addition, eventually every teacher in the school will have access to a computer for keeping hourly attendance records and averaging grades. Parents will be able to call in and use the code assigned to their child to check their grades.

In addition, the gradebook program will allow teachers to send their grades electronically to a folder in the guidance department. There they will be picked out of the folder and report cards will be run.

Frantically trying to get his paper done, an English student fights with the IBM to get the paper done.





BOYS' CHOIR - Row 1: Erik Ohregon, Alex Calic, Jason Dzunda, Rich Stazinski, Eric Culp, Sam Bairaktaris, Mark Lengyel, Sid Rivera, Robert Heath. Row 2: Matt Navarro, Kevin Mehay, Tom Lepp, Andrew Crane, Emmanuel McCann, Tashi Farmer, Marty Johnson. Row 3: Johnn Shultz, Corey West, Jason Surdzial, Sam Barrett, Kevin Newton, Pat Farabaugh.

Steve McFarland, freshman, concentrates on the music in front of him. He is one of many students with a musical talent at MHS.

*Music students
garner awards
at solo contest*

STUDENTS COMPETE

By CATHY NAVARRO

Throughout the years, music has been referred to as the language of the world. Right germ naby high school students in choir, band, and orchestra alike take part in the making of music. Many of these students even feel confident enough of their talent to take part in ISSMA, Indian State School Music Association, a competition in which young musicians can put their skills to the test.

"Contest gives the student the experience to work on their own and to interpret the music for a qualified judge, which is an opportunity they would not get any other way," state Jerold Reinhart, choir director.

The competition includes five divisions or levels. Division V is the easiest and Division I, the hardest. Usually juniors and seniors or students with more experience and a stronger music background are allowed to enter Division I. For the student who enters Division I, there are two possible steps. The first step is the district competition, and if the performer receives a first, then he will advance to state.

The District Solo and Ensemble contest for vocalists and pianists has been held annually at Lake Central High School. Vocal students memorize their music and are graded

**"Contest gives the student the experience to work on their own and to interpret the music for a qualified judge, which is an opportunity they would not get any other way."
Jerold Reinhart,
choir director**

in various categories; such as, intonation, memorization, stage presentation, and rhythmic accuracy.

The Vocalteens boys ensemble; Vocalteens, Sara Bruner (piano), sophomore; Wilfred Vivo, Jody Balcerak,

Benita Cookston, Tina Yurechko, juniors; Lauren Peters, Jim Lesniak (voice and piano), Melissa Buggie, and Chuck Stapiński, seniors; qualified to compete at the State competition which was held at North Central High School in Indianapolis on February 27. At the state competition MHS's choral department received five first place ratings and four second places.

In addition, MHS orchestra students brought home 37 gold and six silver medals from the Indiana State School of Music Association Solo and Ensemble District Contest on January 30.

Students receiving first ratings for solos were Debbie Kings, Gil-Hwei Lee, Kirstin Olson, April Selagy, and Patrick Tsai.

Receiving two or more first ratings for ensembles were Ben De Leon, May Lee, Mitra Naumoski, Kirstin Olson, April Selagy, Juanita Toledo, and Patrick Tsai. Nineteen members of the MHS Orchestra performed in a large ensemble that advanced to state competition.





CONCERT CHOIR - Row 1: Tina Yurechko, Cathy Ainsome, Jody Rakertat, Cathy Navarro, Becky Schreiber, Jamie Lashenik, Belinda Meddellin, Celina Paz, Angela Mikh. Row 2: Robin Phillips, Michelle Foster, Dina Weis, Melissa Buggie, Chuck Stapiński, Wilfred Vivo, Hope Jusko, Michelle Mayers, Christina Maffitt, Angie Byrom. Row 3: Lauren Peters, Benita Cookston, Brandi Swisher, Pherron Lewis, Jim Lentini, Tim Sopko, Jenny Verbiik, Mary Snover, Jackie Harnes. Row 4: Tom Schultz, Harry Sims, Adam Byrom, John Duplaga, Mike Valovcin, Lawrence Murphy.



NINTH GRADE GIRLS CHOIR - Row 1: Kristina Riese, Amy Denardo, Kyle Bedore, Lisa Taylor, Sarah Wesley, Becky Jenkins, Lori Pavlopoulos, Janelle Ellison. Row 2: Stephanie Wagner, Aubrey Kelley, Maria Papadakis, Carmen Ramirez, Nicole Melele, Beth Jusko, Jenny Draper, Melissa McCary, Angie Stapiński. Row 3: Julie Santarrom, Sarah Burt, Kelly Thorn, Venesa Doneski, Jill Harnes, Maria Trujillo, Jennifer Klapak, Melissa Freeman, Nicole Gutierrez, Lisa Kanove. Row 4: Melissa Glorioso, Andrea Simpson, Briana Castle, Beth Macy, Tania Zdravetski, Judy Jennings, Rachel Price, Ronda Price, Harriett Kelly.



TENTH GRADE GIRLS CHOIR - Row 1: Denise Moody, Amy Winter, Jennifer Vega, Erica Appeltin, Pamela Good, Jennifer Duplaga, Jenny Dainton, Chanetta Blacknell, Missy York, Abby Vivo. Row 2: Leann Richmond, Aishia Rodriguez, Amy Cyphert, Julia Zolondz, Correy McElvornett, Jenny Newman, Lucinda Paz, Gloria Gonzalez, Samantha Sherwood, Lena Gilliland, Lisa York. Row 3: Mandy Obekaj, Kathryn Pahl, Michelle Verbiik, Leah Frink, Kennetha Thompson, Melinda Hatfield, Amy Picard, Nikki VanTil, Rosanta Parker.



VOCAL TEAMS - Row 1: Adam Byrom, Hope Jusko, Cathy Ainsome, Tim Sopko, Jamie Lashenik, Jody Rakertat, Mike Valovcin. Row 2: Benita Cookston, Tina Yurechko, Lauren Peters, Chuck Stapiński, Cathy Navarro, Melissa Buggie, Lisa Kanove, Lawrence Murphy, Christina Maffitt, Tom Schultz. Row 3: Jenny Verbiik, Harry Sims, Wilfred Vivo, John Duplaga, Becky Schreiber.

Orchestra students concentrate on their music. Orchestra students spend many long hours practicing their music.

Seniors Kelly Johnson and Lisa Whitmore make music together in band. The showcased their talents at all home football and basketball games.



BAND - Row 1: Lara Flan, Sonja Mitchell, Kara Gonzalez, Wendy Woodburn, Nadia Venegas. Row 2: Eric Randolph, Michelle Lenart, Katie Foreman, Frevri, Roger Johnson. Row 3: Peter Rodriguez, Paxton Williams, Anthony Walla, Albert Davilla, Marcus Harris, Sean Briggs. Row 4: Sean Buck, Adam Weitzen, Pom Cole, Tim Miff, Matt. Sell.



BAND - Row 1: Alicia Gunn, Carmen Bonilla, Bernadette Vargas, Cynthia Garcia, Lisa Whitmore, Melissa Breden, Jenny Price. Row 2: Lisa Beres, Kelly Walters, Dawn Buchko, Lisa Pratt, Pam Ruschak, Yvonne Escott. Row 3: Sara Luttinen, Shawn Gueyner, Becky Punc, Marie Kaminsky, Rebecca Zolanda, Jeff Dobbs, Barbie Guy. Row 4: Jason Jezuit, Charles Chung, Bill McKee, Jimmy Sotrowski, Aaron Lewis, Thad Agee, Mark Lengel.

*Students have
different reasons
for joining band*

BANDING TOGETHER

By RYAN SCHAFER

The sound of instruments. This could be heard all over the new and improved band facility. With the arrival of a new band director and the freshman, the band hit off a very musical year.

Many of the band students had gotten involved in band at an early age. With this they learned all they need to know about the instrument they were to perform with. "I got involved in band my seventh grade year because I had an empty slot in my schedule and band seemed interesting," stated Mario Butler-Del Rio.

Many students ei-

ther get into band because their parents told them to or because they have to

**"I got involved in
band my seventh
grade year be-
cause I had an
empty slot in my
schedule and
band seemed in-
teresting."**

**Mario
Butler-DelRio,
senior**

fill in something to get that credit to graduate.

After high school

many band students go on to college and get involved with the band programs at their particular colleges. From this they can make a possible career. These careers stem from going to the local carnival to hitting the night clubs in Chicago to getting a music contract from a popular label. Sometimes those that have been in band classes throughout high school seem to do some post band work. From either getting involved with the local symphony or just going to Chicago and hitting the night clubs.



BAND - Row 1: Jena Hanson, Leann Forbs, Tammy Robinson, Erica Walls, Sarah Hummel. Row 2: Rhonda Jackson, Keshia Hardaway, Danielle Gunn, Takeesha Williams. Row 3: Bridgette Zellers, Rily Evans.



BAND - Row 1: Dave Maldonado, Brian Snelson, Tara Devine, Margaret Holland, Damon Derico. Row 2: Shawn Cole, Tommy Gasperson, Mario Butler-DelRio, Mike Menendez, Michael Hampton. Row 3: John Drasich, Erik Smith, Mike Jonson, Aaron Malerich. Row 4: Jason Mohoi, Rob Flores.

*Flags and poms
spend hours
in preparation*

PRACTICE PERFORMING

It takes dedication and hours of practice. Members of pom poms and flag corps spend their summer going to camp to work on skills the rest of the student body thinks come naturally.

Then come the hours of practice. Practice with the band. Practice in small groups. Practice as one group. Practice individually. Practice, practice, and more practice.

Finally school begins, but the hours of practice don't stop then. Practice time just has to be worked into an already busy school schedule, usually after school.

Once school starts the performances begin. Cheering for the team. Helping to get the crowd into the game to motivate the team.

Half-time performances are fun but nerve-racking. All eyes are on the field but

this is what you're here for.

Still the practice continues. There are new routines waiting to be learned. After all you can't do the same one week after week.

Time marches on. Football season ends and basketball begins. Still the practice goes on. Routines change as cold weather is no longer a factor but sponsor Marianne Oates requires us to practice.



Step in time. The Poms show their precision as they do their kicks. Most spectators have no idea how hard it is to keep in time with the music and to stay together.

Flying in the breeze. Flag Corps member Pam Ruschak, freshman, twirls her flag to the beat at the Hobart game. The Flag Corps worked long hours to learn their routines.



PERCUSSION - Row 1: Roy Clay, Paul Lynn Michael. Row 2: Harley Niles, Stephanie Washington.



BAND AND FLAGS - Row 1: K. Johnson, T. Steeh, L. Whittemore Row 2: D. Steeh, D. Maldonado, R. Clay, K. Lobodey, G. Lucia, L. Fairbes, Director M. Clay, L. Pratt, J. Drasich, C. Garcia, S. Luttinen, K. Dohiecki, L. Lindborg - P. Michael Row 3: S. Reder, S. Lopez, T. Williams, B. Snelton, E. Randolph, V. Mosqueda, C. Peterson, J. Shaffer, T. Robinson, R. Jackson, R. Johnson, S. Buck, M. Lengyel, H. Luedike, K. Corsaro Row 4: C. Gonzalez, J. Dobbs, A. Lewis, B. Zellers, K. Gonzalez, J. Figueroa, D. Buchko, J. Springman, R. Evans, C. Frevert, K. Noel, J. Bartochowski, G. Hampton BACK ROW: J. Price, M. Breeden, B. Paine, K. Walters, B. Guy, C. Chung, A. Walla, M. Harris, J. Jezuit, K. Foreman, R. Scherling, T. Sievers.



POM POMS - Row 1: Christine Partas, Alison Dainton. Row 2: Heather Gallimore, Michele Lupas, Angie Bednash, Lisa Treshnowski, Maria Tyrikos, Tiffany Vivo. Row 3: Wanda Olvera, Kristina Rise, Sarah Nicholls, Beth Minninger, Amy Judge, Becky Yager, Stephanie Pagel, Candy Cunningham. Row 4: Erin Lain, Michele Verbi, Kristy Trock, Christina Gargano, Kathy Cannon, Danielle Ramirez, Judy Adams, Summer Dickens, Nancy Packowski, Jenny Draper, Sarah Wesley. Not pictured: Heather Wesley, Staci Skura.



FLAG CORPS - Row 1: Angela Demaree, Jenny Price. Row 2: Kelly Johnson, Lisa Whittemore, Kami Steeb. Row 3: Missy Stepana Hampton, Danielle Gunn, Pam Ruschak. Row 4: Ms. Kristi Corsaro, Judy Jennings, Yvonne Escot.

Going up.
School spirit was on the rise at both football and basketball games when the cheerleaders performed. The team was required to attend all games both at home and away.



VARSITY CHEERLEADERS- FIRST ROW:: Monica Origel, Angie Byrom, Angela Mish. SECOND ROW: Hope Jusko, Jennifer Beck, Wendy Adams, Michele Mysliwiec. THIRD ROW: Chuck Stapinski, Dallas Wells, Jason Parkis, Buddy Wenger, Dave DeSalle. RAISED: Dlane Jagiela, Erin Jones, Sarah Bernstein, Heather Stompior, Kim Gutierrez.



JV CHEERLEADERS- FRONT ROW: Erica Walla, Angie Kilgore. SECOND ROW: Karl Dombrowski, Kristin Lucia, Beth Irby. THIRD ROW: Samantha Sherwood, Alisha Rodriguez. BACK ROW: Mandy Olejnik.



FRESHMAN CHEERLEADERS- FRONT ROW: Megan Wojciechowski, Missy McCory, Alyssa Wright. BACK ROW: Bridgette Pruschk, April Pratscher, Linda Mysliwiec.



High up in the sky.
Male cheerleaders hoist their female counterparts during a cheer. This was the first year MHS has had male cheerleaders. The squad started with seven males but dwindled down to four.

Give me an "M"! The cheerleaders shout their hearts out trying to liven up the crowd. The squad practiced many long and hard hours to perfect the routines they performed at games.

*Guys add
strength
to squad*

SHOWING SPIRIT

By ZAC WELLS

Attending every game, having great spirit, and enthusiastic smiles, the MHS cheerleaders keep the fans on their feet, and cheering for our teams. This year the cheerleading squad was different from all previous years. Six male cheerleaders were added to the varsity squad enabling them to do more complex mounts and to yell louder. It took a lot of hard work and cooperation to get to get everything running smooth for the season, but they managed.

"We worked a lot this summer to teach them the technique, the cheers, and proper safety precautions. We also worked on coordinating the cheers with the mounts, which was hard to do," Erin Jones, senior

This summer the squad attended a summer cheerleading camp at Valparaiso University camp that lasted four days. They learned a lot of different mounts and technique, which according to the cheerleaders is the most important thing. This experience helped the squad perform through out the season.

"We became a lot closer this week, and we learned how to coordinate everything together. We learned how to do a lot of new mounts and cheers with the guys. We were the only squad there who had guys on their team" Hope Jusko, senior.

The squad is coached by Lori Govert, a former MHS cheerleader of the class of '83. She is a primary teacher and graduated from St. Joseph college where she was also a cheerleader.

"We wouldn't have been able to do anything with out Mrs. Govert, she taught us everything. With the guys on the squad there was a lot of new stuff to learn, she really helped us." Erin Jones, senior.

Now many colleges are giving away scholarships for cheerleading, which helps students continue their education. Each college varies in their expectations. MHS cheerleader Dallas Weills will be a cheerleader at the University of Evansville in Evansville Indiana this fall.

"I heard about their cheerleading program so I went there and tried out and I made it. I'm really excited, and interested to know how it will be different from high school I'll be going there in the fall," Dallas Weills, senior.

Having both girl and guy cheerleaders gives a new twist to watching them perform. It's different than it has been in previous years, so in some cases people are interested in watching and cheering along.

"It is more entertaining now that there are guy cheer-

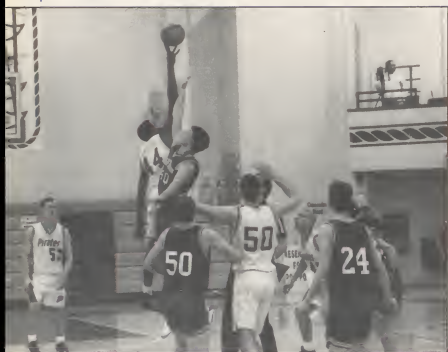
leaders. It is neat to watch them do their mounts and cheers. They make the game more exciting than before." Lisa Luebke, senior.

It can be important to the teams that the crowd is out there and cheering for them. The support can inspire the team to play at their best. The cheerleaders are there to lead and encourage the cheering.

"Cheerleaders add a sense of school pride at the games. They add a lot of school spirit and make it fun to get excited and cheer at the games." Fred Hong, senior.

Merrillville has converted their cheer squad to that of a college squad. They both have men and woman, similar uniforms, megaphones, and cheering routines. They are a very competitive squad since the conversion.

"By far the most outstanding squad that I have seen at a prep game is the group of fine young athletes from Merrillville. The importance of exciting the crowd, because the crowd helps set up the level of play of the team, is obvious to every coach in the country. Games have been won on adrenaline and these cheerleaders know how to get it going." Kitty Conley, Regional Radio Sports.



Going up!

Erik Smith, senior, goes up for a jump ball as teammates Zac Wells, Jamel Williams, Dave Joseforsky, and John Skrundz stand posed for action.

Defense! Defense!


Sophomore Tom Schultz cheers on the defense at the Hobart game.

The team went on to defeat the Brickies 24-6 in front of a sell out crowd at Demaree Stadium.





STRIVING *for more*

ontinuing tradition, Merrillville High School athletes dedicated their time and effort to successful seasons. The football team and the boy's basketball teams watched their goal slip away one game away from a trip to the Hoosier Dome. *Striving for more*, the softball team continued their excellence by winning state. Others, in less widely followed sports, reached higher levels of success with some athletes winning state in individual events. Nevertheless, in practice and in competition Merrillville athletes were *striving for more*.



Girls' Cross Country- FRONT ROW: Ann Gorman, Cheryl Gonzalez, Jill Harms, Bobi Cunningham, Nita Toledo BACK ROW: Sarah Kathcart, Jessica Figueroa, Coach Susan Shook, Liz Simunic, Christina Briggs.



Boy's Cross Country- FRONT ROW: Orley Dossiema, Jeremy Lagalo, Rich Stazinski, Ray Lucero BACK ROW: Ryan Harrington, Ryan Miller, Alan Hepp, Josh Schaefer, Bob Brant, Toby Miles, Coach Greg Pierson.

Out in the lead, Bob Brant, senior, runs his heart out. Brant consistently did well in meets. Following behind him are Alan Hepp, Toby Miles, and Josh Schaefer, seniors.

Taking off, Alan Hepp, senior paces himself for victory. Hepp was one of many seniors that had been apart of the cross country team for three to four years. Hepp was a captain of the team.



CROSS COUNTRY

Veterans provide unity

by Tom Gayda

"End of the Road" may have been written for the boy's and girl's cross country teams as both squads retired a number of seniors. The boy's team was hit hardest. Over three fourths of the team were seniors. The girls have also been hit, but youth is still on their side. Both teams faced the odds and came out swinging.

Alan Hepp, senior, comments about being on the team for four years. "It's been a great four years. Coach Greg Pierson has really been good to us. He worked us from nothing to a powerhouse, of course we worked too, but he kept it fun. We did are best, and are proud we made it where we did."

The team perceived and put in outstanding final performances against Andrean and Hobart. They placed first in the Hammond Clark Invitational, placing ahead of ten other teams.

State, however, wasn't within the reach of the runners.

"Most of us trained for three or four years, and not making it to state was a great disappointment. I was, like everyone else, a piece of the puzzle and without my piece, we're not going to work," states Bob Brant, senior.

The cupboard's not completely bare. There are a few underclassmen who will return next year, providing the needed leadership to keep the team in the thick of things.

The girl's team under the direction of new coach Susan Shook also put in stellar performances. This squad loses fewer members and returns a lot of experience. Titles eluded the girls, but their determination kept them going. They placed fifth out of twelve at the Lafayette Jefferson Invitational, and had an impres-

sive number of wins along the way.

Katie Grimmert, senior manager, comments, "This was our first year with Coach Shook. She did a great job and hopefully will lead the team to some big titles in upcoming years. She has really been good. There will be a lot of returning girls next year that can get the job done. It'll be interesting."

Leadership, experience, and determination has challenged both teams to do their best. When it comes to the final finish line, the boy's and girl's cross country teams gave it their all, dissappointing no one. They both proved ample challengers.

"Merrillville is known for excellence in many areas, and in the future cross country will be right up there with football and basketball," concludes Grimmert.

Time will tell.

Stretching out before a meet are the girl's cross country team. The team, under the direction of Coach Susan Shook, put in many long, hard practices in order to keep up with all opponents.





Varsity Volleyball- FRONT ROW: Sandy Weliczko, Nicolle Ferlus, DeDe Riddle, Angie Harris, Jenny Herbert BACK ROW: Asst. Coach Colleen Collins, Ronda Price, Chrissy Pozgay, Head Coach Amy Beckham, Nan Malerich, Rachel Price, Asst. Coach Lorri Covaciu.



Junior Varsity- FRONTROW: Sylvia Galinta, Shelly Boecker, Cynthia Garcia, Abby Vivo, Irene Halkias, Kelly Gut BACK ROW: Coach Colleen Collins, Katie Pahl, Erin Janovsky, Megan Maloney, Kati Foreman, Lisa Dimitroff, Coach Lorrie Covaciu.

Yes! After a successful play the volleyball team celebrates. The girls finished the season with a 6-21 record and fourth in the Duneland Conference.

Wow! Ronda Price, sophomore powers her serve over the net. Price and her twin sister Rachel proved to be a potent one-two punch in their matches.



VOLLEYBALL

This serve's for you

Out with the old and in with the new. Now that last years volleyball players have graduated, there is a new generation of players. The new generation of players are younger and are more experienced.

"The team this year has more individual athletic ability," said Erika Yambrisak. "We may not have a good record, but we are very young. There are NO seniors and we start three freshmen, two sophomores, and one junior."

"I would say that this years team is better than the past, at least from what I can see," said Sandy Weliczko, junior.

Team effort is one of the biggest skills needed for the sport of volleyball. In order to have team effort, everybody has to get along with each other and help each other out during the games.

"Our team has a variety of different personalities."

said Jenny Herbert, junior. "They all seem to fit in together. On and off the court, we trust each other."

"The relationship between all of us is great, its like we're all one big happy family," said Weliczko.

Every sport always has one dominant player. The volleyball team doesn't think so. They believe that everybody is a good player. Everybody takes part in the games and everybody is part of the team.

"I don't believe that a team can have a best player," says Chrissy Pozgay, junior. "That is a good question that has to be answered with the word everyone. The team, the whole team and every team member is the best player on the team."

"There is no one player that is better than another," said Yambrisak. "Yes, some players are more consistent at this time, but this also goes back to the age of the

girls."

With some injuries throughout the season, the volleyball team tried to play at their best. Being cheered on by their teammates helped them to do so. Now, the volleyball team tells how the season went.

"I think that even though we haven't had a winning record, we are constantly improving," said Herbert. "We have a lot of talent and I'm looking forward to winning our sectional."

"With a sectional win," said Pozgay. "I really believe that we can do it if we put our minds to it."

This years volleyball team has proved to be everything they said they were and more. The girls have shown spirit, potential, and team cooperation.

They went after everything they wanted and would not back down. Sectionals were not an obtainable goal, but one day it appears they will be.



	MHS	OPP
Andean	1	2
Whiting	0	2
Lake Station	1	2
Crown Point	2	1
Lake Central	0	2

Hobart	2	0
Lowell/		
Boone Grove	W-L	
Calumet	2	0
Portage	0	2
Bishop Noll	0	2
Munster	0	2
Chesterton	0	2
Morton	0	2

Griffith	1	2
Merrillville		
Invite	L-L-L-L	
Valparaiso	2	1
M.C. Rogers	0	2
Highland Invite	W-L	
Hebron	1	2
LaPorte	0	2
Sectionals	L	

FOOTBALL

Pirates dominate all challenges

by Justin Ramage

Just about everyone on the MHS football team had dreams of going to state, which were washed away when they lost to E.C. Central last year in the semifinals of the sectionals.

"It was really a shock losing by thirteen points, considering we hadn't been beaten all season long. We had a lot of injuries occur to some key players, but we still thought we'd go far in playoffs," says senior Jim Wirtes.

But wait, there's more. MHS beat South Bend Riley 21-14 in overtime to advance to semi-state, where they met up against Fort Wayne Snider. Many people questioned the Buc's ability early in the season. Did they have the right stuff to be number one in the state?

Could this years offensive linemen survive the trench wars, and 'own the pit', a term that offensive line coach Joe Atria often refers to?

"This has been the best offensive line I have seen at MHS. Also, the

hogs (offensive linemen)

work very hard every practice, they deserve the most attention because they make everything happen, and Coach Atria, top hog, does a good job of getting the offensive line ready to play," says Dave Joseforsky, senior quarterback.

Could Joseforsky withstand the pressure in the pocket this year? Joseforsky's awesome air show against Chesterton answered all questions when he connected with Wirtes for 200 yards. Overall, Joseforsky completed 288 yards against the Trojans. Both Wirtes and Joseforsky broke school records in passing and receiving.

"I felt pretty excited about breaking the record. It's not everyday someone gets to break a school record," responded Wirtes.

Joseforsky seemed a little bit more surprised. "I didn't even know I broke the record until a couple of days later, but I have to give the wide receivers credit for that along with the hogs," Joseforsky stated.

Would Jamel Williams, senior, be able to play at top condition, coming back from a knee injury, which knocked him out of competition last season? Williams lived up to his super-star potential rushing 100 yards or more just about every game this year. He helped the Pirates scalped the Portage Indians in a 37-18 victory at Portage.

The Buc's defense showed some signs of trouble early in the season, but ironed out the wrinkles quickly. With the help of some key players such as middle line backer Zac Wells and defensive end Mike Stewart, seniors. The Pirates were able to stuff teams, such as Michigan City Rogers 36-0 and the LaPorte Slicers 10-0.

Post-season tournament play started off well but ended in upset. The Pirates blew past Lake Central, Crown Point, E.C. Central, and South Bend Riley, becoming regional champs in the process. At semi-state they lost to Fort Wayne Snider, but the Pirates ignited a community behind them and paved the way for future MHS football teams.



Keeping
Score

	MHS	OPP
Crown Point	28	6
Chesterton	24	14
Portage	38	17
M.C. Rogers	36	0

Valparaiso	35	21
Andean	43	7
Hobart	24	6
LaPorte	10	0
Sectionals		
Lake Central	35	21

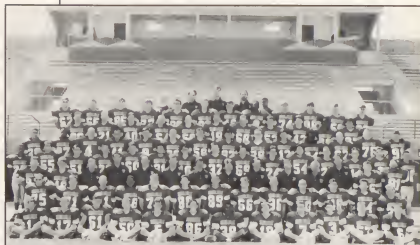
Crown Point	30	7
E.C. Central	17	13
Regionals		
S.B. Riley	21	14
Semi-state		
Fort Wayne Snider	7	14



Putting the ball in motion, Dave Joseforsky, senior, passes the pig skin to senior Jamel Williams. The Pirates captured the Duneland Conference title and were semi-state runner-ups this year. For the second year in a row the team captured the Duneland title. It was the second time in 17 years the Pirates went to semi-state.



Running for the touchdown Zac Wells, senior, crosses the ten yard line en route to his six points. Wells and fellow teammate Jamel Williams, senior, not only excelled for the Pirates, but also played in the North-South All-Star Game in the summer. Wells will play baseball at St. Joseph College, Williams at Nebraska.



Football- FRONT ROW: M. Hylek, S. Bobos, G. Thiros, M. Jones, J. Trivette, J. Shultz, D. Harvey, T. Schultz, T. Rattray, B. Osbourne, D. Hackett, R. Lahart SECOND ROW: J. Furto, J. Galoozis, D. Joseforsky, J. Williams, B. Smiley, K. Emy, G. Burke, M. Stewart, Z. Wells, W. Lile, P. Schultz, B. Parrish, M. Clark THIRD ROW: T. Schafer, M. Bailey, Coach D. Hamilton, Coach J. Clinkenbeard, Coach J. Atria, Coach K. Coudret, Coach R. Wimmer, Coach J. Yelton, Coach M. Krutz, Coach L. Zembala, Coach J. Wiggins, Coach R. Stelter, T. Owen, R. McMillan FOURTH ROW: T. Bolden, K. Bobos, B. Bozinovski, M. Mitch, J. Lash, S. Galvan, M. Guernsey, R. Parlock, M. Schwinn, T. Bartolomeo, D. Shih, J. Pabon, J. Wirtes, K. Dobiecki, D. Mahaffey FIFTH ROW: D. Katsourous, K. Willis, L. Schiefer, M. Navarro, J. Misorich, S. Longacre, K. Smith, M. Lesniak, M. Wisniewski, B. Hogan, L. Shorter, K. Mehay, M. Mikesell, J. Largura SIXTH ROW: S. Webster, G. Gronowski, V. Lopez, G. Bachich, J. Ramage, W. Conner, J. Wells, G. Smith, T. Narkum, M. Pace, G. Freeman SIXTH ROW: J. Fedorchak, J. Berk, D. Titus, B. Gorgijovski, H. Sims, P. Lewis, B. Shapley, C. Brown, J. Hussey, D. Cole, J. Beckwith, J. Wojciechowski BACK ROW: Student Trainer R. Williams, Statistician R. Moore, Trainer M. Depta, Trainer S. Iszak, Manager S. Spinks.

SWIMMING

Swimmers face tough obstacles

The 1992-93 swim season was a perfect example of triumph over adversity. Midway during the boy's season, the athletic department decided to remove and replace head coach Rusty Bernstein with his assistant Brian Angerman. This caused much turmoil between members of the team.

"When Rusty was fired, the team split in half. Half of the team wanted Rusty back and the other half didn't." Ryan Harrington, senior.

This caused a problem with team unity and togetherness.

"No other sport forces the team members to spend as much time together as swimming." Grant Miller, senior

Despite all of the problems during the season the Bucs posted a win-loss record of 3-10, tripling their win column of last year. The pi-

rates also had a fifth place finish in the conference and a team runner-up finish in the Lake Central Sectional.

The Bucs Concentrated on the Lake Central Sectional as their focal point of the season. The team decided that the success of their hard work could be decided by one day. As a team the Bucs finished second to eight time defending champ Lake Central.

"Lake Central has won their sectional for the past eight years. They are a good program with a lot of good people." John Sell, junior

Ryan Harrington was victorious in the 200yd. I.M. while finishing second in the 100 yd. Breaststroke. Harrington also swam the breaststroke on the medley relay which finished second. Mike Jonson finished ??? in the 100 yd. Butterfly and was runner up to Jim Maness in

the 100 yd. Backstroke. Gary Lucia placed ??? in the fifty yard Freestyle and ??? in the 100 yd. freestyle. Jim Maness captured the sectional crown in the 100 yd. Backstroke while setting a new school record in this event. Maness was also third in the 200 yd. I.M. and swam the backstroke leg of the runner-up medley relay.

More importantly than the team finish of the season was the fact that the Bucs Scored the most points at the Indiana State meet in over nine years. Senior Jim Maness finished eleventh in the state in the 100yd. Backstroke setting a new school record by eclipsing the 11 year old record set in 1982 by former MHS student, Bob Beck. Ryan Harrington, senior and team MVP finished 11 in the 100 yd. Breakstroke and 200

On the way home an MHS swimmer gives it his all. Swimmers were required to practice hard, at morning and afternoon practices.



STRIVING FOR MORE



Gasping for breath, Mike Jonson, freshman, swims to a win. The boy's team faired well, but lost numerous seniors to graduation.

Coming nearer to the finish is Vincent Horbach, senior. Horbach is a foreign exchange student from the Netherlands who participated in numerous school events.



Girl's Swimming- FRONT ROW: Sarah Litty, Kari Dombrowsky, Jennifer Vega, Margaret Toledo, Christy Pierce, Morgan Gray, Jill Stamate, Elizabeth Flores SECOND ROW: Tina Castellanos, Cathy Navarro, Jacque Holeman, Kristyn Grace, Kara Gonzalez, Tracy Sparks, Randi Childress, Stephanie Markovits BACK ROW: Coach Rusty Bernstein, Jenny Collie, Kristen Lucia, Kathy Cannon, Heather Stamate, Patti Traficante, Tricia Reitman, Meg Pendley, Coach Dymann.



Boy's Swimming- FRONT ROW: Larry Schiefer, Grant Miller, Ryan Harrington, Jim Maness, Gary Lucia SECOND ROW: Mark Laurel, Rob Brodner, Rich Sargent, Vincent Horbach, Adam Parks THIRD ROW: Diving Coach Kristi Corsaro, David Greenberg, Aaron Malerich, Ashley Lake, Jason Janiszewski, Mike Jonson, Coach Brian Angerman BACK ROW: Aaron Malerich, Jason Jeswit, Christy Pierce, Eric Randolph, John Sell, Matt Sell.

BOY'S BASKETBALL Dominating the court

by George Vasilopolous

After a successful but disappointing season last year, the 1991-92 Merrillville Pirates basketball team had a lot to prove in 1992-93. This senior dominated team had the mentality, togetherness, and toughness that would make them tough to beat. After a very successful football season, Jamel Williams, David Joseforsky, Zac Wells, and John Mishorich had to make the tough transition of getting ready for the basketball season.

"These guys have been through a lot together on the football field, so they are veterans. The only difficult transition for them is the change from football conditioning to basketball conditioning," stated Erik Smith-senior.

The high powered Pirate offense was led by seniors Erik Smith, Jamel Williams, Zac Wells, and John Skrundz. The man that ran the show is senior captain David Joseforsky. Joseforsky who was forced into the role as the starting point guard, did a great job at his new position. Last year, "Jerk" was the starting power forward on the DAC championship team that went 17-4.

"Last summer, Coach East told me that I might play the point because of the graduation of our three guards. At first, I thought he was joking but everything worked out fine," states Joseforsky.

When the Pirates entered the regular season, they were ranked as the seventh team in the state by the Associated Press. But, after losing two of their first three games, a lot of people wrote the Pirates off.

This all changed when the fifth ranked East Chicago Central Cardinals entered Englehart Gymnasium to face the Pirates. The media predicted E.C. Central to beat us by ten points,

but right from the first whistle, the Pirates controlled the tempo of the ballgame. At the end, the Pirates outmuscled them and won 62-59.

From that point on and, the Pirates went on a rampage winning thirteen games in a row including a sectional championship and MHS's first regional championship since 1978.

"The East Chicago game was an eye opener to the team and myself. We knew that we were one of the elite in the region so we had a lot to prove. This win led to bigger and better things and it was evident in the state tournament," stated Coach Jim East.

The Pirates outmuscled Hobart, Crown Point, and River Forest, in winning its first sectional championship since 1990. But, that was not enough for the Pirates.

"The bald headed, muscle bound, purple Gorillas" took their show to the East Chicago Regional. The Pirates outmuscled, outsmarted, and outplayed the Calumet Warriors and the Gary West Cougars on its way in winning its first regional championship since 1978. This was an eye opener to the rest of the state, and showed them that the Merrillville Pirates are for real.

"I think that this is great for MHS and the community of Merrillville. When people from around the state hear the word Merrillville, they will know that we are a top notch school and community," stated Coach East."

The following week, the Pirates were preparing for the Lafayette Semi-State at Purdue's Mackey Arena. The school and the community were in a frenzy for Merrillville's first appearance in the Lafayette Semi-State since 1978. The Merrillville contingent at Mackey Arena was tremendous.

Out of the four schools who participated in the semi-state, Merrillville sold the most tickets. Approximately, 2500 Merrillville crazies showed up at Mackey.

"When we came off the ramp going onto the floor, it sent chills up and down my spine. It's a feeling that I have never felt before. When I saw all of the Merrillville faithful cheering for us, it made me feel proud that I am a Pirate," stated Zac Wells.

The senior dominated team were close on and off the court, and it showed. "Whenever one of us were down, their was always someone there to pick us up. That's a sign of a great team because we were not only good basketball players, we were great friends also," stated Jamel Williams.

The success of the Pirates relied on the players who came off the bench and contributed in their own special way. Antwand Hickerson, senior and Brett Fedak, sophomore contributed in a major way with their offense and defense. Also, John Mishorich and Adam Byrom helped with their perimeter shooting and defense.

"When I was sitting on the bench, I would do whatever I could to fire up the team. But, when it was time for me to check in, I was ready" stated John Mishorich.

Overall, the Merrillville Pirates had their most successful season in fifteen years and produced over twenty wins. Even though they did not reach their goal of making it to state, they have a lot to be proud of. Many teams would love to be in the Pirates position and they proved a lot of people wrong on their way to making it to the Elite Eight in the state of Indiana. The critics wonder how a basketball team





Sky high goes senior John Skrundz as he blocks Portage's shot. Skrundz was one of many basketball team members that shaved their head towards the end of the season. The bald heads were used as a motivational tool for games.



Varsity- FRONT ROW: Manager D.Evans, J. Misovich, J. Williams, M. Guernsey, A. Hickerson, Z. Wells, D. Joseforsky, A. Byrom, Manager J. Surdzial BACK ROW: Coach J. East, Asst. Coach K. Johnson, Asst. Coach M. Hackett, T. Hughes, B. Fedak, E. Smith, J. Skrundz, B. Delich, T.J. Lux, Trainer S. Izuack, Videoman R. Moore.



JV- FRONT ROW: J. Wordlaw, B. Hogan, C. Tarry, M. Guernsey, J. Wells BACK ROW: G. Gronowski, J. Hussey, R. Shelton, T.J. Lux, B. Delich, T. Hughes, K. Erny, Coach M. Hackett.

Keeping Score

	MHS	OPP		
Andrean	56	70	Portage	48 34
Hammond Clark	67	41	Gary Roosevelt	67 53
Valparaiso	60	69	Highland	93 42
S.B. Riley	59	58	E.C. Central	62 59
Kankakee Valley	75	66	Lowell	63 56
McCutcheon	56	43	Sectionals	
Hobart	88	48	Hobart	60 48
Gary Wallace	72	57	Crown Point	68 49
Chesterton	49	37	River Forest	92 46
Lake Central	49	56	Regionals	
Hammond Gavit	79	61	Calumet	92 44
Crown Point	68	60	Gary West	74 63
Laporte	53	59	Semi-State	
Munster	92	46	M.C. Elston	74 58
M.C. Rogers	80	58	Carmel	52 59

GIRL'S BASKETBALL

Playing like a champion

by Zac Wells

Pride, Dedication, and Desire are three key elements that has led to the incredible uprising of the Merrillville Lady Pirates. With the help of new coaches, a new philosophy, and lots of patience. This team has been striving to become an up and coming force in the conference as well as in the area.

They say that the attitudes of the coaching staff in charge of a team reflects directly on it's players. That's what M.H.S. must have been thinking when they brought in new varsity, assistant varsity and junior varsity coaches. The dedication and patience that these coaches had has definately rubbed off on the players in their program.

Chrissy Pozgay, junior states, "The attitudes have changed. The girl's are more committed and willing to practice. We're learning with every game and practice and our heads are finally not drooping. I think that we are finally learning from our mistakes."

Lori Modglin, sophomore agrees in saying, "The increase in my game from last year to this year was the patience of coach Steele and my father. This year, as a sophomore, coach and my dad knew that I didn't have much

confidence. So they both worked very hard with me this year and at times they had more confidence in me than I had in myself."

While many players are either at the beach or still in bed, the Lady Bucs use the summer not as a resting time, but as a time of improvement. The job of turning a program around takes a lot of commitment and dedication.

"I have put in many long, hot hours in the gym on the days of summer. I go to basketball camps almost every summer and play with anyone that I can. I play with guys who aren't afraid that they'll hurt me and with people who are bigger than me. It doesn't matter who you play or where, as long as you play. Despite all my other commitments, I know that I must keep my basketball skills sharp by playing on week-ends and during my free time. In order to do that many times I have to sacrifice time for sleep, homework, and my social life. However I wouldn't stop playing for the world because I love this sport," says Pozgay.

Despite the high expectations that this team places on itself. These girl's are not ignorant to the changes that must take place for this to become a winning program.

"This year was just a learning year.. We've got to learn how to beat a team when we get close to them. This season there were many times where we stayed close to a team and then folded in crunch time. I think that that's just because we are a young team and we're going to get better. In the next few years we should be winning most of our games. We have a great future," states Jenny Herbert, junior.

Varsity wasn't the only place that the hard work paid off. A large number of players that split their time between J.V. and varsity last year were given the opportunity to showcase their talents full time on the varsity level this year.

"As a freshman I played a lot of varsity games, but only started two. But, by coming into the gym throughout the summer it took my game to another level. It helped me to stop being timid and it gave me time to work out some of the flaws in my shot," says Modglin.

With such dedication and potential, the sky is the limit for these girls as well as for this program. And just like the sign they touch before they go onto the floor says, they will always strive to 'Play Like A Champion'.





Battling over the ball many of the Lady Bucs try to get it up for two. The girls didn't have a tremendous season, but they improved on the previous year's record and are prepared for a tough future.

Carrie Zapinski, junior, attempts to get her free throw point against La Porte. Zapinski worked hard to help the team in its strive for success. The team was made up of many returning starters.



Varsity- FRONT ROW: Cheryl Santos, Carrie Zapinski, Leah Frink, Jenny Herbert, Abby Vivo BACK ROW: Lori Modglin, Chrissy Pozgay, Ayanna Jefferson, Rachal Torres, Erin Janovsky, Christina Celakoski.



J.V. - FRONT ROW: Kellee Derico, Michelle Borman, Jessica Figuerora, Michelle Jones, Abby Vivo BACK ROW: Sandy Weliczko, Laurie Maness, Ayanna Jefferson, Christina Celakoski, Erin Lain, Megan Maloney, Kathy Foreman.



Keeping SCORE

	MHS	OPP		
Munster	51	58	Wallace	27 60
Gavit	54	32	Roosevelt	60 29
E.C. Central	55	87	Crown Point	32 54
Caston	58	53	Hobart	39 36
North White	51	56	Valparaiso	19 37
Laporte	37	46	West Side	30 79
Chesterton	31	55	Calumet	46 30
Andean	35	56	M.C. Rogers	32 39
Portage	37	53	Sectionals	
Highland	45	49	Crown Point	31 55



Trying to break free, John Tabor, senior displays his superior wrestling ability. Tabor proved to be good enough to make it to state. He was joined at state competition with junior Ted Phillips and Joe Largura, senior.



Wrestling- FRONT ROW: Ted Phillips, Mike Villanueva, Dan Harvey, John Tabor, Tim Lavery, Heath Lang BACK ROW: Coach Chris Joll, Coach Rassback, David Vode, Ed Brant, Tyson Owen, Mike Mikesell, Joe Largura, Mike Pace, Ray Lucero, Coach .

WRESTLING

Doing it on the mat

by Alan Hepp

Imagine being slammed face first into a hard floor. Sound like fun? If so, then maybe you should consider joining the wrestling team. Wrestling is a demanding and sometimes cruel sport, but it disciplines you.

This year began with a bit of turmoil for the 1992-1993 Merrillville wrestling team and its second year coach Chris Joll. There were several girls who had an interest in joining the team. It just turned out to be business as usual with the motto this year of 'Doing it on the mat.'

The team picked up where it left off last year...on a roll. "The team did as well as I expected... we set our goals high and reached them," said Coach Joll. The team went on a tear, winning several dual meets and placing high in several invitational such as the Penn Super Duals. Some wrestlers are nervous going into a big meet. Others, including Joe Largura, said, "I felt

confident and ready to do my job."

It takes a lot of work to be a good wrestler. The team practices every day from October until February. After season, many of the team members wrestle freestyle well into the summer. So, when you think about it, the life of a wrestler is filled with work.

Don't get it wrong. They still have fun. Joe Largura remarked, "the most fun that I had was beating Paul Polichuk three times and just hanging out with the other wrestlers."

Anyone who participates in sports will tell you that competition increases when the State Tournament rolls around. This season was no different, but the Pirate grapplers faced up to the competition. The team walked away with the Sectional Championship. According to Coach Joll, "The greatest moment of the season was winning Sectionals by 50 points." The Pirates walked away with 8 sectional champs:

Ted Phillips, John Tabor, Tim Lavery, Heath Lang, Ed Brant, Mike Pace, Joe Lagura, and Mike Mikesell. But, as everyone knows, there has to be a worst moment as well. For the wrestlers it was the Duneland Conference Tournament. "We had a good first round, but a bad second round. I thought we should have had more guys in finals," said Coach Joll.

Three of the Sectional Champs went on to the State Meet. Ted Phillips placed seventh at 103, and John Tabor placed ninth at 130. Mike Pace also participated in the meet held at Hoosier Dome.

This year was an excellent one for the grapplers, but good things are still to come. "I have good expectations for next year. We lose Tabor, Pace, and Lagura. Although they will be tough to replace, we have a lot of people coming back. The ones that are Juniors now should do well," said Coach Joll.

Attempting to gain the advantage Dave Vode, junior, steps out from underneath his opponent. Vode had a consistent season, doing his best each outing.

	MHS	OPP
LaPorte	43	6
Lew Wallace	67	0
Portage	21	35
Morton	67	3
M.C. Rogers	53	11
F.W. Snieder	41	16
Penn	36	24
Plymouth	61	6
Mish. Marian	67	0
Chesterton	37	19
Hobart	33	27
Valparaiso	49	17
3 State Qualifiers:		

Ted Phillips
Joe Largura
John Tabor



GYMNASTICS

Continuing a state tradition

by George Vasilopolous

The most successful program in the state went through a transition year because of the graduation of three time state champion Crissy Lisch and Jodi Campbell. "The loss of these two individuals hurt us because they have been the heart and soul of the team for a couple of years. We had a lot of catching up to do during the first part of the season," stated Diane Roberts-coach.

The defending state champions had to rely on new names and faces in 1993. With the competition in the Duneland Conference, the Lady Pirates gymnasts were challenged every meet. Throughout the season, four DAC teams were ranked in the top 5 in the state. "The DAC is the dominant conference in the state. Who ever

wins the Regional will win the state meet. Coaches know each others strengths and weaknesses," stated Roberts.

Besides new names and faces, the Lady Pirates gymnasts got a brand new home. The new gymnastics facility is one of the best in the country and will bring the Merrillville gymnastics program more success in the future. "The new facility will keep Merrillville at the top for a long time.

It will improve our performances in each event and will give us the confidence that is needed heading into the DAC meet and state tournament," stated Roberts.

With the brand new facility, the Lady Pirates can look ahead to the future. Roberts and her husband Bill run their

own gymnastics club at Merrillville. The new facility will draw more participants to their gymnastics club every year. "With the addition of the new facility, the interest for gymnastics will be even greater. This means more success in the future," states Roberts.

This years success relied on new names and faces. The leader of this young group is Jenny Bryan-junior.

The State Uneven Bars Champion was tremendous all year long. Her accomplishments over her young career is incredible. She has broken a school record in the floor exercise and finished third all-around at the state meet. Jenny's dedication to the sport of gymnastics is stated Roberts.

SCORING

	MHS	OPP
Portage Pairs	2nd	
Lowell	104.9	89.5
M.C. Rogers	104.2	83.3
Hobart	106.3	79.8
Ft. Wayne Con. Invite	3rd	

LaPorte	104.45	91.9	State Qualifiers:
Portage	107.4	104.0	Amy Sopczak-
Lafayette Jeff Invite	2nd		6th in vaults
Chesterton	102.75	109.8	5th in floor
Valparaiso	107.7	110.4	Jenny Bryan-
Crown Point	104.9	74.3	1st in bars
Sectionals		3rd Place	5th in balance beams
Regionals		3rd Place	5th in floor



STRIVING FOR MORE





Oops! Lisa Zak, sophomore, loses her balance on the beam. The gymnastics team didn't win state as a team, but two of Zak's teammate's Amy Sopczak, freshman, and Jenny Bryan, junior, placed in the competition.

Amy Sopczak, freshman practices her routine in the new gymnastics room. This was the first year the team was able to practice in a facility all of their own.



Gymnastics- FRONT ROW: Jill Stamate, Sarah Parrish, Tina Guzik, Cheri Hamilton SECOND ROW: Amy Sopczak, Staci Skura, Alisa Zak, Becky Schrieber, Kristin Lucia, Tiffany Albee BACK ROW: Coach Bill Roberts, Cindy Brown, Karyn Durkin, Jenny Bryan, Coach Diane Roberts.




Girl's Track-FRONT ROW: Manager W. Swanke, B. Jusko, A. Kelly, A. Denardo, S. Galinta, J. Toledo, L. Polomchak, L. Siminic, K. Foreman, B. Cunningham SECOND ROW: J. Milak, J. Jones, S. Kathcart, L. Berres, A. Kilgore, A. Geruska, J. Figerora, J. Herbert, B. Schreiber, R. Price THIRD ROW: T. Parker, M. Olejnik, K. Webster, R. DeRico, T. Sikora, L. Dimitrioff, A. Wirtz, C. McDermott, R. Price, Coach Ebbert FOURTH ROW: Coach Susan Shook, D. Riddle, E. Lain, K. Lucia, M. Maj, M. Pendley, A. Pratscher, J. Harmes, Coach Joe Atria FIFTH ROW: S. Mitchell, K. Thompson, K. West, K. Wamsley, K. Derico.

Hurling the shot put in the air is Rachel Derico, senior. The girl's track team had an even season, placing fourth in the Duneland Conference and third in their sectionals.

Waiting to watch the next event, Joe Atria, head track coach, ponders some strategy. Atria is not only the head track coach, but an assistant football coach as well.





GIRL'S TRACK

Team tackles competition

by Staci Skura

"The combination of strong senior leadership and fresh young talent is the key to our success this season," states Joe Atria, girls track coach.

As the season, along with the team, began to shape up, there were many promises and goals in store for the 1993 girls track team.

During the pre-season training, it was anticipated that they would be strongest in the throwing events, hurdles, and the 1600 meter run due to returning competitors in those events. While these competitors did well in their first few meets, the most successful events were the sprints, jumping, and middle distance events.

In comparison to last year's team Coach Atria responded, "We have more

natural talent, and more depth. This is the largest group we've had in several seasons and most of the girls are freshmen and sophomores, which is good for the future."

The team also had a wide variety of returning members.

Jenny Herbert, junior, says, "I feel we are much better than last year. We are better physically and mentally. We have more spirit. My goal is to reach state."

Herbert was close, but only made it to regionals. She took several firsts however along the way.

A few problems faced the team along the way.

Carrie Zapinski, junior newcomer, narrowed her obstacles to, "getting handoffs

in our relays perfect, the timing, and getting first in our events."

The team concluded their season with a 5-5 record. They were fourth in the Duneland Conference standings.

Concerning the future are positive comments.

"We have good coaches and they push us hard, but they push us to be the best and we understand that," says Freshman Marianne Maj.

Throughout the season the girls answered their challenges and accomplished many of the things they set out to do.

The returning underclassmen look to next year to go even farther.

SCORE

INDOOR:

MHS 3rd place of 4 (Lake Central, Hobart, Andrean)

OUTDOOR:

MHS 2nd place of 4 (Lew Wallace, E.C. Central, Hammond)

	MHS	OPP
Hobart	69	49
Valparaiso	53	63
M.C. Rogers	48	70
Portage	48	70
Chesterton	60	58
Crown Point	?	33
LaPorte	50	68

Highland Invite- 2nd place, Blue Division
 Andrean Relays- 5th place, Gold Division
 Sectionals - 3rd place
 4th place in Duneland Conference

BOY'S TRACK

Size leads to success

by Tom Gayda

New faces on the team and in the coaching staff highlighted the boy's track and field year. Winning wasn't overlooked, either.

The team finished the season with a fourth place regional finishing, but some team members feel the Hobart Little 500 victory was more satisfying.

The season was sure something. Members feel they did their best and had a

good season.

"It was a thrilling experience. Trying to break thirty seconds in the 200 was my goal. I broke it in the final meet of the year. All that hard work had paid off. Even though it was the slowest time ever, I was proud of myself," says Chris Bard, junior.

Others also feel they did their best in helping the team out.

Tony Bartolomeo, junior, says, "It was a tough, yet successful season. Track is hard work. You have to be strong to survive. The rewards are worth it. Its a great feeling to see the hard work pay off."

With the majority of the track team being underclassmen, members feel that in upcoming years the team will improve and be dominant.



	MHS	OPP
Andrean	90	36
Hobart	88	39
Valparaiso	40	87
M.C. Rogers	87	40

Hobart Little 500: 1st Place

Chesterton 52 75

LaPorte 97 30

Portage 45 82

Chesterton Relays:

3rd Place

Sectionals 3rd Place

Regionals 4th Place



Up and over goes Ben Shapley, junior. Pole vaulting was one of the field events the team excelled in. Chris Bard, junior, watches the technique.



Running his heart out, Chris Brown, junior, prepares to pass the baton in a relay race. The boy's track team finished fourth in the Duneland Conference and first at the Hobart Little 500.

Coach Ken Coudret squints to see the action at a track meet. Coudret not only is head track coach, but an assistant football coach, too.



Boy's Track: FRONT ROW: C. Sims, A. Belesh, J. Simpson, R. Stazinski, T. Bolden, O. Dossaiema, R. Proyen, M. Stath SECOND ROW: Coach K. Coudret, L. Derico, M. Mitch, C. Bard, L. Schiefer, T. Owen, K. Willis, G. Fleming, B. Neely, W. Ornel THIRD ROW: Coach L. Zembala, M. Meyers, M. Mikesiell, C. Brown, B. Sharpley, J. Miller, T. Bartolomeo, J. Ryan, E. Peterson, J. Schultz FOURTH ROW: Coach R. Wimmer, R. Rose, H. Sims, P. Harris, A. Hepp, J. Williams, T. Miles, P. Lewis, R. Parlock, C. Demure BACK ROW: Coach J. Clinckenbeard, C. West, P. Schultz, J. Schaefer, J. Galoozis, M. Stewart, T. Hughes, J. Hussey, K. Emry.

SOCCER

Twenty-four carat goals

by Cathy Navarro

"It's a beautiful kick off!" No, it's not football season again. This is the other sport played with feet. Soccer, Merrillville style.

"This team is the best ever at MHS and we are looking for some revenge from last season," said co-captain John Duplaga at the beginning of the season.

The Pirates opened their season with an 8-0 shut-out win over Lew Wallace. In their next battle, against Chesterton, they weren't as fortunate.

Soccer, compared to other sports, works a little different than other MHS sports. There is not the typical sectional, regional, state

route that almost every other sport takes. Instead, since soccer is not sanctioned in Indiana, they hold a tournament for the Northern Cup. The top four teams in one conference play each other, then the winner there plays the winner of the other conference. Those teams go to South Bend and play for the ultimate prize, the Northern Cup. The Pirates were not successful in this pursuit, but they proved to have satisfied some of their goals.

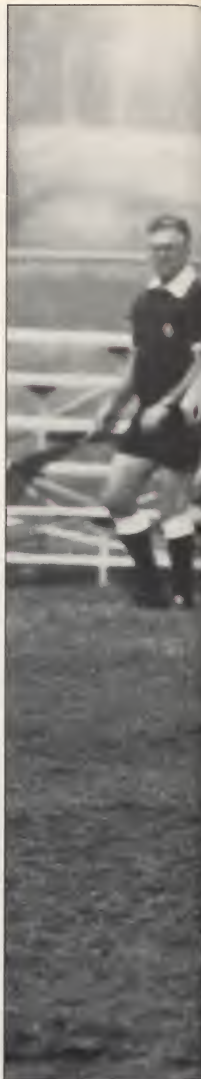
The team was led by three seniors, Duplaga, Dallas Weills, and Chago Vaca. "They are the backbone of our team and I'm glad we

had them. Seniors are always needed because of experience," says head coach Bob Jackowski.

The soccer team, like many other MHS teams had the disadvantage of not having a place to call home. The Pirates practiced in a wide variety of places. They included behind the football stadium and on the field next to the administrative building. The games were held at Harrison Middle School. With the renovation project completed, the team will have a place to call home in future seasons. With the IHSAA sanctioning soccer soon, competition is sure to heat up.



Heads up! An MHS soccer player tries to control the ball with his head as the team goes for a victory. IHSAA officials put a damper on some students future soccer goals, by making it a sanctioned fall sport.



STRIVING FOR MORE



Bam! Deric Wilson, junior, positions to kick the ball for a goal. The soccer team started their season practicing and playing in a variety of places.



Soccer- FRONT ROW: Jenny Duplaga, manager, Deric Wilson, Tim Sopko, John Duplaga, Terry Zapinski, Pavle Petrocki, Leanne Forbes, manager BACK ROW: Coach Duplaga, Steve Oh, Chago Vaca, Mike Thein, Warren Conner, Lupce Kajamakoski, Dallas Weills, Ty Nieski, Coach Bob Jackowski.

BASEBALL

Team strives for excellence

by Tom Gayda

The rivalry between Merrillville and Hobart is ancient. It has carried on onto the football field, the basketball court, and even the baseball diamond. From these titanic struggles Merrillville has emerged victorious time and again, until baseball seasonals.

Baseball season started out simple enough. The Pirates achieved a state ranking even before they played a game. From there they battled through struggle after struggle, including two regular season victories over Hobart. On their voyage to state the team took a share of the Duneland Conference Title with rival LaPorte.

As the season approached head coach Fenton Macke was hopeful. "Our coaching staff is very optimistic about the upcoming

season. We return our three top pitchers, and even though we lost our entire infield and catcher to graduation we feel there are quality replacements ready to step in and fill those positions."

Players worked hard to achieve success. Their season ended with a 22-6 record. They were 10 - 2 in the conference.

"With the state ranking we had a high expectation for the year. All the other teams want to beat you. It made us practice harder to get better and better," stated pitcher Brian Delich, junior.

As the season proceeded the team had one unique encounter - LaCrosse. They featured two starting female players. Delich pitched this game and

didn't worry about whether or not they were girls.

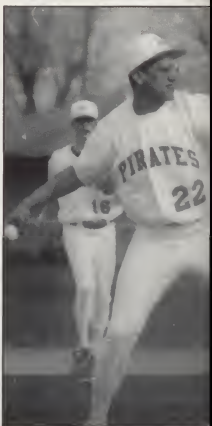
"I was not afraid to hit the girl, so I did. She didn't try to catch it," comments Delich.

A fellow player saw the scene differently.

Ted Phillips, junior, states, "When Delich hit she caught it. One of the girls did do the splits trying to catch a ball."

Then on June 5 at Crown Point the mighty Pirates met up with Hobart in the sectionals. The Bucs were certainly confident, but Hobart was primed to stop the Pirates in their tracks. They succeeded and ended the Pirates season prematurely.

Being a large school with a large assortment of players, the future of the baseball team looks bright.



Keeping Score

	MHS	OPP
Hammond High	6	2
Hammond Clark	6	3
Hobart	3	2
Portage	2	3
Andrean	2	9
LaPorte	11	17

Valparaiso	2	1
Whiting	11	7
M.C. Rogers	5	0
Chesterton	9	2
Evanston	4	3
New Trier	6	4
Hobart	5	4
Portage	4	3
LaPorte	4	3
Rensselaer	14	4
North Newton	2	3
Valparaiso	15	2

Crown Point	1	11
Crown Point	9	3
M.C. Rogers	16	2
Chesterton	8	2
Highland	21	10
Lake Central	15	2
Bishop Noll	4	2
LaCrosse	8	1
Munster	3	0
Sectionals		
Hobart	4	12



David Joseforsky, senior, slides in to third base before being tagged out. The team had hopes of big things, but were they were hindered at sectionals. (Photo courtesy of the Times.)

With a look of determination Joseforsky pitches a fastball. The team was lucky to have a number of good pitchers to get them through their season.



Baseball- FRONT ROW: Rudy Gutierrez, Alex Correa, Jim Wirtes, Ken Dobiecki, Schawn Longacre, Tim Lavery, Jeff Trivette, Paul Puskas, Ted Phillips BACK ROW: Coach Fenton Macke, Scorekeeper Rob Moore, Eddie Sobh, Mark Hamilton, Ben Parrish, Chris Janovsky, Brett Fedak, Brian Delich, Zac Wells, Dave Joseforsky, Mike Cuszar, Grant Miller, Vic Lopez, Coach Mike Krutz.

SOFTBALL

Just Battin' Around

by Alan Hepp

Well, the girls of summer have taken the field once again. After hours upon hours of ground balls, pop-ups, and line drives, the Merrillville High School Girl's Softball team marched towards the 1993 State Championship. Armed with a handful of veteran Seniors, things were looking bright for the team from the start.

Softball is one of those sports that usually starts early. Five year old girls are often seen with their dads practicing in the backyard. Lisa Tresnowski is one of those. "I love the competition and everything about the game. I've played since I was eight." Noelle Hosfeld added, "softball was the only sport I was ever good at."

As everyone knows, there are nine positions in the baseball field. The same is true of softball. So why do people play the position that they do? Bille Medellin, senior offered her reasons for playing. "I'm the shortstop. It's great because a lot of

balls are hit to that side so you have to be on your toes. But, the best thing is taking the throws on the steal and wiping the girl out."

All throughout the season, the girls told themselves "We can go to State," but their path was not clear. Defending State Champion Lake Central stood somewhere in the way of the Pirates and Indianapolis.

The girls seemed poised to do well in the State tournament. Despite a few losses to Lake Central and others, Merrillville compiled an exceptional win total of (PUT IN NUMBER OF WINS AT END OF SEASON) games.

When the sectional finally rolled around in May, the Lady Pirates were up to the test. They breezed to the finals and easily defeated cross-town rival Andrean for the crown. The Pirates were lead by Jenny Hemminger, the team's MVP as well as freshman Amy Sopczak who took over lead-off duty late in

the season. According to Head Coach Bob Bergeson, it was "the senior leadership" that lead the girls to the victory.

The Regional posed a serious threat to the Lady Pirates' bid for the State Crown...Lake Central. For years, Lake Central has been a softball Mecca and this year was no different. But this year, the Pirates were up to the challenge. They defeated the Indians and won the first Regional Championship in years. The strength of the Indians was just too great and the Lady Pirates succumbed but nonetheless gave an excellent effort.

Even though the Lady Pirates didn't win the State Championship this year, they can hold their heads high because they played hard, well and had fun. And who knows... with Chrissy Pozgay, Leah Frink and Erin Janovski returning from the All Duneland Conference team, things look bright in the future...more than ever before.





Lisa Tresnowski, senior, shows emotion as she goes for the softball. The girls did what many deemed impossible, and captured the state softball title.

Anxiously awaiting the ball, Noelle Hosfeld, senior, keeps her foot on first base to make sure her opponent is out. Many of the graduating girls will continue to play softball on the college level.



Varsity Softball- FRONT ROW: Manager Robin Phillips, Noelle Hosfeld, Lisa Tresnowski, Hope Jusko, Sara Nicholls, Patti Craig, Amy Sopczak, Coach Bob Bergeson BACK ROW: Coach Pat Mulloy, Allison Krysa, Erin Janovsky, Chrissy Pozgay, Jen Heminger, Sandy Weliczko, Coach Frink.

TENNIS

Causing a racket

Exploding out with all pistons firing is how the Merrillville boys tennis team began their year. After a shaky mid-season the team once again began their climb to the top just in time for the playoffs.

The big matches is where the leaders of the team came to the forefront and attempted to motivate their teammates to the best of their abilities.

"I'm senior captain so to try and pump myself up and the rest of the team, I'd get a little crazy. By yelling and screaming, I'd do my best to get everyone fired up," stated George Vasilopoulos, senior.

After all the pre-match festivities are done, the pressure mounts as an opponent from a rival school strolls onto the court.

"I feel the pressures of playing my best everyday because I'm always playing extremely tough players, even the weak teams usually have at least one tough player." Paul Puskar, junior continued on to say, "I like the idea of playing seniors at number one singles because playing older players will make me better for next season."

Despite all the troubles the Pirates held their heads high

because they knew the time would come when their depth and experience would pay off. The team went 13-7 and won sectionals.

When it came to the girls team tough schedules and opponents provided ample competition.

Leading the team was Ann Gorman, junior. Gorman was the number one ranked member of the team.

The team went on to a 7-8 season and finished fifth in the Duneland Conference. More important many underclassmen will be returning to carry on the tennis tradition.



BOYS

	MHS	OPP		
Lake Central	5	0	M.C. Elston	7 0
M.C. Rogers	5	0	Andrean	4 3
Chesterton	4	1	LaPorte	2 3
M.C. Elston	5	0	Highland	3 2
Valparaiso	1	4	Crown Point	2 3
Portage	2	3	Munster	0 5
Griffith	5	0	Andrean	3 2
Hobart	5	0	Sectionals	
Lowell	4	3	Gary Roosevelt	5 0
			Andrean	3 2
			Regionals	
			LaPorte	- -

GIRLS

	MHS	OPP
Lake Central	4	1
Crown Point	1	4
Highland	2	3
Andrean	3	2
East Chicago	4	1
Hobart	5	4
LaPorte	1	4
Lowell	5	0
Munster	0	5
Valparaiso	0	0
Portage	2	3
M.C. Rogers	3	2
Chesterton	2	3
Hobart	5	0
Valparaiso	1	4



Waiting for his partner Chris Baker, senior, to serve, Eddie Sobh, junior, runs over strategy in his head. Baker and Sobh were a top duo, but split up in tournament play.

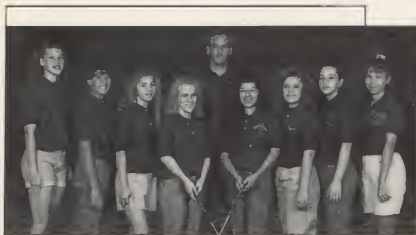
Returning a serve, Paul Puskar, junior, uses all his strength to send the ball over the net. Puskar was one of the top members on the team.



Boy's Tennis- FRONT ROW: Karl Meyer, Joshua Larson, Sid Rivera (Mgr), Dave Beller, Tim Sopko, Richard Deel SECOND ROW: T.J. Stochel (Mgr), Ryan Reithel, Pat Tsai, Paul Puskar, Eric Culp, Brandon Nelson, Jim Metros BACK ROW: Coach Dave Zimmerman, Eddie Sobh, Chris Baker, T.J. Lux, George Vasilopoulos, John Vlahos, Tom Lepp, Coach Ferrer Levinson.



Members of the girl's tennis team are: S. Boedeker, A. Corea, A. Demaree, A. DeNardo, R. Evans, L. Garbus, C. Gonzalez, A. Gorman, T. Guzik, N. Hiatt, J. Jennings, D. Kings, J. Lashenik, M. Lenart, K. Lobody, B. Malave, J. Metros, P. Michael, K. Onoff, K. Pahl, B. Paine, K. Phillips, P. Ruschak, M. Stratsky, K. Sommers, K. Strawhorn, L. Taylor, A. Tejuja, T. Vasilopoulos, K. Walters, W. Woodburn



Girl's Golf- Erin Lane, Amy Sopczak, Erica Walla, Sarah Felinski, Cheryl Santos, Missy Dobis, Brandi Vucko, Tricia Cantrell, Coach Mike Hackett.



And away it goes! Missy Dobis, sophomore, wales the golf ball into the green. Dobis, like the rest of the golf team, was an underclassmen.

GOLF

Challenges are numerous

FOUR! Watch out for that flying birdie! This could have been said of the golf team this season. They were getting started on a slow start. But as the season progressed they got into par.

With the change of the courses from last year to this year, the boys had to readjust their clubs back to the Broadmoor Country Club style. Last year they played at Turkey Creek and the change this year was just a sudden thing that happened.

John Schoop, senior, "This was the best year I have ever played for Merrillville, my senior year and I'm having a fun time." He stated this after playing a good year at Broadmoor Country Club.

Changing of the

course was not the only thing that occurred, with the bringing of the freshman to the high school, this brought to more guys coming out for the squad. Of the freshman coming out more over bring more competition for the veterans. Yet, all that was competitive between the freshman and the veterans was who was going to be caddy.

Mike Navarro, senior, "I would have preferred having a caddy carry my clubs this year but none were available to me." Mike had a very good year overall. He played to his fullest and had fun with it.

"Anytime Mike would come into speech class, that is all he talked about, golf." Ryan Harrington, senior.

Scott Webster, senior, "I wish we had more time to play on the course and get to know each other better."

This year the team was senior dominant. But everyone got along as though they were on a club league. Many of the members were getting advice from each other. From this comes the leadership role of the upperclass men. From this leadership brings the leaders for the seasons to come.

The girl's team led under the direction of Mike Hackett went to a 7-8 record. Missy Dobis, sophomore, led the team with an average of 58.5. Junior Cheryl Santos had a 60.4, placing her in second.



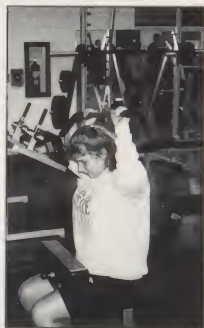
Putting the ball to the hole, Brandi Vučko, sophomore, tries to have the score to beat. The girl's team improved their record this year compared to last.

All this and a brain, too. Senior Chuck Stapinski takes time to perfect his body in the Wellness area. Finding the time to workout is especially difficult for Stapinski. He is top ten of his class and Student Government president.




Work them muscles man. Junior Mike Pratscher curls his legs to improve his lower body strength. The fitness center offers machines and weights that can work the entire body.

Showing she can do what a guy can do, Jamie Childress, sophomore, pulls down the bar as she works her upper back muscles. The fitness center was frequented by just as many girls as guys.



STRIVING FOR MORE



WELLNESS

Fitness is for everyone

by Ryan Schafer

Wellness it's something we all have to get in to. Here at Merrillville High School with all the construction, a Wellness program was instated to bring to a more healthy environment in the community.

Wellness was promoted to get the employees of Merrillville Community School Corporation in tip top shape. A majority of the staff has participated in the program. To get into the Wellness Program, a staff member had to go through a screening and pay for the screening cost. But if there was a problem with the screening test the participant would have to get a release from their family doctor.

MerrillWell is a program that is set up for all full time, part time or contract employees. A spouse of an employee is enligible to go through the program with the screening process also. All retirees of the school corporation are also invited to participate.

Wellness' first director is Dan Mulvihill. He came

to Merrillville with a masters degree from Ball State University in the field of Wellness management. He came to Merrillville in August. He hopes to encourage all employees to get involved in the new wellness program.

Top health risks that Merrillville school employees had when they entered the program were: Motor vehicle accidents, cancer of the lungs, cancer of the breast, strokes, diabetes mellitus, heart disease, pneumonia, and cancer of the large intestine. With the help of Wellness these health risks can or could be reduced.

Wellness' mission is to "Encourage maximum active participation in wellness activities through administrative support, employee ownership, quality facilities and service, structured planning, creative implementation and ongoing evaluation." It goes on to say, "The long range goal is to develop and maintain happier, healthier employees who can continue to en-


joy optimal well-being and all the benefits of an institutionalized wellness program."

This mission was established to lower the health care cost to the employees and their families. With the help of the employees to participate in the Wellness program they will benefit from two worlds, the health care and the physical outlook of themselves.

All fitness programs have some sort of training. With the MerrillWell program any one who participates in the program will have direct link to any video, literature or advice for their benefit to "Be Well-Stay Well." This is the slogan that the program has taken on.

Wellness to students is like a Quest class. It teaches all the different ways to live your life to the highest potential. To think positive about yourself. With the many classes that they will introduce in the future to enable everyone to live a healthy life, this something that will make everyones lives.



A black and white photograph of a student, likely a freshman, sitting at a desk and working on a worksheet. The student is wearing a light-colored jacket and is focused on their work, using a pen to write on the paper. The background is slightly blurred, showing other students and classroom elements.

the MORE *the merrier*

August 25, 1992 nearly 1,700 teenagers walked through the doors of Merrillville High School. The freshmen and sophomores faced the challenge of finding their lockers, classes, and friends in a new school. This was the largest number of new students to enter MHS in the fall ever. Meanwhile juniors and seniors checked out areas of the school which had been closed off last year because of construction. Faculty members transferred from Harrison and Pierce Middle Schools, and new teachers made a record number of teachers new to MHS. To everyone it seemed *the more the merrier*.

Do you have number 4? Students work to complete a worksheet by the end of the hour. Although worksheets give needed practice, sometimes they seem like a waste of time.

Staff

1992-93



MCSC ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Anthony Lux, assistant superintendent; Dr. Robert Schrenker, superintendent; Ronald Price, assistant superintendent.



MCSC SCHOOL BOARD: Donna Stath, L.J. Crist, Bryant Matthews, John Carr, Arthur T. Collins, Junior.



MHS ADMINISTRATION: Tom Herbert, assistant principal; Bev Bashia, assistant principal; Dr. Daniel C. Rapacz, principal.



DIRECTORS: Tom Cameron, assistant athletic director; Janis Qualizza, athletic director. Not pictured: Mary Lou Sproat, director of media services.



SECRETARIES: Row 1: Liz Fraska, Elaine Hydinger, Barbara Richter, Shirley Barclay. Row 2: Nancy Miller, Janet Pennock, Vi Solich, Cheryl Albers.



AIDES: Row 1: Sue Matthews, Judy Vassallo, Gloria Zale, and Sandi Koehler. Row 2: Debbie Zellers, Lynn Prashchak, Fran Duffy, and Carol Hogan.

Paul Abernathy - math.
 Beverly Ambrozak - business, National Honor Society sponsor.
 Janet Anderson - art.
 William Angelidis - science.
 Patricia Armstrong - English, Debate coach.

Joe Atria - science, girls track coach, assistant football coach.
 Russell Bernstein - physical education, boys and girls swimming coach.
 Mary Ann Bertram - foreign language.
 Robbie Bothwell - business, department chairperson.
 Lee Bottom - industrial arts.

Robert Brown - math
 Judith Chidsey - English
 Chris Choncoff - social studies.
 Linda Christoff - English department computer lab coordinator, English Clinic sponsor.
 Mary Clay - Band Director.

Jeffrey Clinkenbeard - science, assistant football coach.
 Kristi Corsaro - social studies, boys diving coach, fall flag corps.
 Kenneth Coudret - science, boys track coach, assistant football coach.
 Lorri Covacu - English, assistant volleyball coach, Speech.
 Jacqueline Crone - English.

Michelle Curtis - English.
 Barbara Dlouhy - special education, department chairperson.
 Miles Dunscombe - science.
 Richard Ehler - social studies.
 Jim Edgcomb - social studies, Academic Decathlon coach.

Sharon Estes - English.
 Cliff Fackler - math.
 Tom Feeney - math.
 Diane Firme - English.
 Mary Ann Galanis - social studies.

S m o k i n g

banned

Exposure to cigarette smoke is now a concern for Merrillville Community School Corporation.

In the past there have been restrictions on smoking in Merrillville schools. Now the announcement of a change has arrived for faculty members who smoke. Starting the beginning of next school year (1993-94), smoking will be limited to specified sections of the schools, which will eliminate second hand smoke exposure to non-smokers. Areas within specifications are rare even with the construction at the high school. In fact, when the plan takes effect only Demaree Stadium's outer concourse area will be a designated smoking area. Thus, teacher must find the outdoors as the only acceptable smoking spot. This total plan will insure that non-smokers will benefit from a smokeless environment. The new guideline includes all eight schools in the corporation.

Teachers have mixed emotions over this topic. Even non-smokers express a scent of compassion about the effect this new rule has on smokers. For most faculty members, the new rule will not change their day at all, since less than 10 per cent of the staff smoke.

However, the shock of this new standard has been soothed with the offer of free programs for smokers trying to quit. The Merrillville Ceis presenting a cessation class for smokers within the school system. "Fresh Start" is a program with material provided by the American

Cancer Society. The class, which is free of charge to school members, is not only for adults but also for student s who smoke. Dan Mulvihill, Director of the Wellness Service, states that this program "welcomes any students, who are involved in the habit, to join the program."

Even with free classes to help people kick the habit, many faculty members and students won't give them a second thought.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Robert Schrenker, a former smoker, understands both sides of the situation. He is optimistic that teachers will comply with the new restrictions. "I think these (teachers) who simply cannot quit will still comply with the policy that requires them to leave the building to smoke. Smokers are being encouraged to pursue all avenues to stop smoking as soon as possible," Schrenker comments.

Schrenker continues, "There are ambivalent feelings, I would say, among non-smoking teachers that don't want to be exposed to second hand smoke and at the same time they have sympathy for those teachers who do smoke."

The school system is certainly doing all it possibly can to prevent people from being bothered by second hand smoke and assisting smokers in breaking the habit.

** by Tom Gayda and Kristen Kira*

"I think these (teachers) who simply cannot quit will still comply with the policy that requires them to leave the building to smoke."

former smoker,
Dr. Robert Schrenker,
Superintendent of Mer-
rillville Community
School Corporation

Drew Furuness - guidance counselor.
Rick Garner - industrial arts.
Sally Gradeless - math.
Ray Hamilton - foreign language, German Club sponsor.
Richard Hill - math.

Laura Hubbard (Stoner) - home economics.
Jan Hughes - business, Senior Class sponsor.
Richard Hurey - industrial arts.
Max Hutchison - math, department chairperson, boys golf coach.
William Idzior - math, math clinic.

Sherm Izsak - science, athletic trainer.
Christopher Joll - science, wrestling coach, Science Olympiad coach.
Jerry Kasarda - English, Quest.
Barbara Kobz - English.
John Kobza - health/substance abuse.



Explaining the differences Ray Hamilton, foreign language teacher, explains the complexities of the German language to his class. Students interested in scientific or medical fields often take German.

These books weigh a ton! Jeff Yelton, science teacher, goes over biology notes with an advanced class. The biology books were so huge Yelton checked them out overnight when students needed them and stored them in his room the rest of the time.



Rosellen Kozel - special education, Student Government sponsor.

Cynthia Kraft - special education.

Mike Krutz - industrial arts, assistant football coach, assistant baseball coach.

Michelle Kurfman - special education, Sophomore Class sponsor, Key Club sponsor, Pep Club sponsor.

Maggie Lain - health/Quest, Senior Class sponsor.

Connie Lewis - English.

Dr. Eleanor Lewis - art, department chairperson, Prom sponsor.

Diane Mandon - social studies.

James Mako - industrial arts.

Pat McNally - special education, assistant softball coach.

Mona Miller - physical education.

Joe Morrow - English, business manager, Thespians.

Patrick Mulloy - social studies, Senior Class Sponsor, assistant softball coach.

Jack Neuliep - science.

Marianne Oates - special education, pom pon sponsor.

FACULTY Peller-Zimmerman

Tom Peller - math.
Bernadine Putz - business.
Terry Pratt - art.
Geri Rainey - foreign language.
Jerauld Reinhart - music, department chairperson, Auditorium Director.

Shirley Renner - guidance counselor.
Wanda Rice - art.
Andrea Rybolt - science, Sunshine Society sponsor, Science Olympiad coach.
Bonnie Sanders - foreign language.
Violet Schmuck - math, computers.

John Seale - industrial arts.
Susan Shook - math, girls cross country coach.
Mary Shoshoo - math.
Maggie Stallings - home economics, Junior Class sponsor.
Jean Stanford - Journalism/English, Quill and Scroll sponsor.

Lori Steele - physical education, girl basketball coach.
Evelyn Steiner - foreign language, Spell Bowl coach, Academic Superbowl coach.
Randy Stetter - English, Freshman football coach.
Lyle Stotling - social studies, department chairperson, chess club sponsor.
Dave Teeter - industrial arts.

Barbara Timmerman - Orchestra Director.
Jim Vermillion - science, department chairman, JETS sponsor.
Carol Van Behren - home economics, department chairperson, Junior Class sponsor, HERO sponsor, FHA sponsor.
Madeline Wilson - foreign language.
Bruce Woods - English, Academic Decathlon coach.

Jeff Yelton - science, assistant football coach, Environmental Club sponsor.
Pat Yurek - special education, Freshman Class sponsor, Freshman cheerleading sponsor, Pep Club sponsor.
Dave Zimmerman - business, girls and boys tennis coach.



Life exists

outside MHS

in Crown Point, president of the Lake County Historical Society, a Lake Courthouse Founda-

tion Board member, and still finds time to read, collect antiques, and work in the yard.

This puts to rest the myth that all teachers do is grade papers, watch the news, and sleep.

Barb Koby, English teacher adds, there is more to life. "I go to

"I go to basketball games, shop 'til I drop, and grade papers."

Barb Koby,
English teacher



Teacher's have a life outside of school! It's true. Teachers are actually involved in activities outside of school.

Many teachers spend a lot of time outside school doing school work, but they are able to find spare time to do some of the things regular people participate in.

Michelle Curtis, English teacher, says, "In my spare time, I plan my June wedding, go shopping, and do school stuff."

Curtis has another partner in crime. Kristen Corsaro, social studies teacher, states, "I'm involved in school a lot. I'm involved in extra-curricular activities and coaching. Even when we (Corsaro and Curtis) go out, we talk about students and school, but we're getting better."

Some teachers do quite a bit outside of school. English teacher Bruce Woods is vice president of the Classroom Teacher's Association, president of the Lake County Historical Museum at the Old Courthouse

The bus leaves that early!

Mike Zolfo, English and speech teacher, spends countless hours helping students refine their speech contest entries after school. At home, he enjoys the company of his wife and his children.

basketball games, shop 'til I drop, and grade papers," says Koby.

Jim Edgcomb, social studies teacher, works with the Boy Scouts of America, travels, camps, reads, fishes, golfs, and more. "I'm a reading addict," admits Edgcomb.

Other teachers with school-aged children also spend time attending athletic events and school programs or helping with the extra-curricular activities in which their children are involved.

The next time a teacher comes to school and hasn't graded homework. Wonder what they were doing the night before. It might surprise you!

• Tom Gayda

f reedoms

new rights

Freshmen gain more freedom in their first year at MHS.

How will I find my locker? Where are all of my classes? Will I get lost? Will I tardy out of all my classes in the first week? Will I get beat up by the older students? Will the seniors pick on me? Will my friends be waiting for me when I walk in school? The list goes on as the freshmen brave the BIG new experience of life at MHS.

The big changes that the freshmen have had to deal with is the new school, rules, and people. Some of these rules are about the same as at the junior high and others are even new to the former students. These are some reasons why some of the freshmen like the junior high and some like the high school.

"There are not as many rules and you have more freedom," said Lori Pavlopoulos, freshmen. "I don't like all the construction and I don't get to see or talk to my friends much."

"What I like about the high school is that you have more freedom," said Maria Papadakis, freshmen. "Also, I like the many after school activities, such as the football games and all the different clubs. What I don't like about the high school is the mess from the construction. Also, that you don't have much time to see your friends."

Now that the freshmen have come to MHS, they are no longer the "top" of the school that they would be at the junior high. Some of them couldn't

wait for this day and now they have to wait three more years to be the "top" at MHS.

"I miss not being able to be the oldest class," said Papasakis.

"I miss the extra time I spent with my friends between passing periods," said Pavlopoulos.

With the freshmen being the youngest at MHS, some of the older students pick on them. When the sophomores were the youngest, they got picked on. Now, it's the freshmen's turn. Although not all the freshmen are picked on, they are taken in by the older students and are shown the ropes of the school.

"Some of them set good examples for the freshmen and are really good role models," said Kim Lobody, freshmen. "Tammy Robinson and Jennifer Schafer are two good examples. They are seniors who treat me like a little sister and really help me with my problems and really help a lot of other people too."

"Most of the juniors and seniors are friendly," said Andy Crane, freshmen. "Like Dr. Rapacz said at the beginning of the year, 'The maturity level goes up and there isn't much clowning as in junior high.' Of what I've seen around school, most of the kids don't pick on the freshmen as much as I've heard at the junior high."

With the high school being the

biggest school that the freshmen have entered, they may like it because they get treated like an adult and their around older students. Others liked the junior high because they were still treated somewhat like a child and were the oldest in the school.

"I like the high school better than the junior high," said Sarah Burt, freshmen. "At the high school we have so much freedom. We get more time to spend with our friends. The high school is way better than the junior high!"

Some of the freshmen don't like being here and others love being here. They weren't ready to be here yet. They feel like they didn't get their full two years at the junior high like everybody else.

"It is much larger than the junior high and a little more complicated," said Erin Crawford, freshmen.

"I like being here rather than the junior high because people treat you with respect no matter what race you are weather you belong to cliques or not," said Lobody. "And people are more mature. They know how people should be treated."

With all the changes going on at the high school, the freshmen have adjusted well. As the freshmen get used to high school life, they will be helping the new freshmen and showing them around. They will be the old pros of the high school.

• Lynn Holley

Steve Adams
Jason Adler
Karen Ahlborn
Staci Ahrens
Kevin Albers
Michelle Alcala
Dawn Allaman
Amber Allen

Amy Armstrong
Sam Bairaktaris
Anthony Bana
Scott Bane
Rebecca Banzen
Todor Baric
Dustin Barnett
Greg Bascom

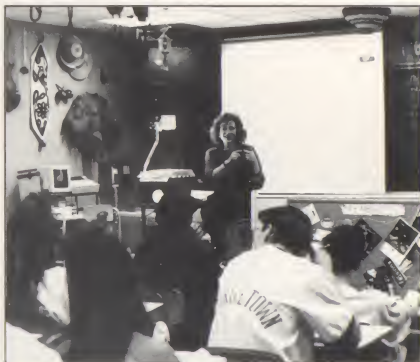
Tamda Beavers
Rob Becker
Kyle Bedore
Andy Belush
Becky Berdine
Lisa Beres
Joel Binkley
Joey Bish





Big time. For the first time in Merrillville history freshmen were allowed to attend Prom as the guest of an upperclassmen. A handful actually attended; however, all who came had a good time.

Ohi la al! French and Spanish teacher Madeline Wilson explains the fine points of learning a foreign language. Freshmen get their first chance at learning another language in high school.



Carmen Bonilla
Randy Brant
Brian Bratcher
Shannon Bricker
Sean Briggs
Teresa Briggs
Erica Brown
Matthew Brown

Ryan Brown
Tomishia Brown
Christina Bruer
Taray Bryant
Sean Buck
Roy Buckley
Stephanie Budzevski
Anthony Bulanda

Nicole Bulkowski
Victoria Burdett
Bernard Burke
Bryan Burns
Sarah Burt
Jeffrey Byrd
Angelica Camacho
Patricia Cantrell

FRESHMEN Casteel-Goetz

David Casteel
Briana Casteel
Jennifer Celms
Chris Christoff
Charles Chung
Stephanie Cichy
Ryan Cimbaljevich
Fausto Cisneros

Roy Clay
Joseph Clemens
Shaun Cole
April Cook
Richard Cooper
Lomechix Cox
Andrew Crane
Erin Crawford

Thomas Cseke
Christopher De Mure
Amy De Nardo
Ann De Nardo
Brian De Young
Richard Deel
Angela Demaree
Damon Dericio

Tara Devine
Peter Dittoe
Bryan Dixon
Venesa Doneski
Robert Doreski
Jennifer Draper
Tania Dravsky
Colin Duffala

Heather Dunn
Douglas Durham
Michelle Duvall
Jason Dzunda
David Eaton
Robert Eaton
Sarah Edwards
James Elenz

Rachel Elliott
Janelle Ellison
Richard Escobedo
Rilee Evans
Trelles Evans
William Fairbairn
Mike Farver
Nicole Fath

Jeffrey Fedorchak
Richard Fedorchak
Tony Ferguson
Tina Ferry
Elizabeth Flores
Robert Flores
Eric Forster
Joseph Foster

Dawn Fox
Paul Francis
John Franz
Melissa Freeman
Andrea Frye
Jill Frye
Jennifer Gabriel
Dave Gabrys

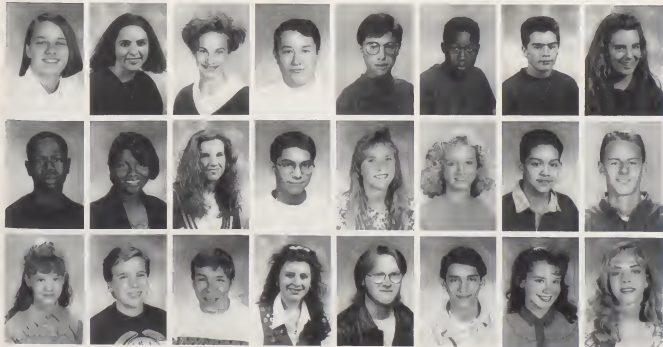
Lori Garbus
Christine Gardano
Juan Garfias
Teresa Garza
David Gearhart
Eric Gill
Melissa Glorioso
Zac Goetz





Freshmen Composition. There's no way around it as Judith Chidsey's class finds out. All graduates are required to pass both Freshman Composition and Literature.

Working hardly on his math assignment Mike Jonson, freshman, strives to do the best he can on his homework assignment. Many freshmen took advanced classes to prepare them for the challenges of Trigonometry and Calculus.



Kara Gonzalez
Kristyn Grace
Morgan Gray
Jason Grin
Joshua Gross
Mark Grubbs
Stevie Gruovski
Nicole Guernsey

Shawn Gueyser
Alicia Gunn
Kelley Gut
Robert Gutierrez
Barbie Guy
Tina Guzik
Steven Guzman
Matthew Habrych

Erica Hall
Jeremy Hall
Garry Hamilton
Lisa Hamilton
Robert Hamilton
David Hammer
Gina Hampton
Joanna Harbrecht

Jill Harms
David Harvey

Kurtis Hill
Marc Holm

Marty Jackson
Misty Jagers

Angela Jones
Felipe Jones

Marie Kaminsky
Lisa Kanouse

Joshua Kirby
Jennifer Klapak

Trisha Kuhn
Marty Kuntz

Richard Larson
Ami Lash

Michael Lindsay
Max Liptak

adding

a class

Over the last couple years, Merrillville High School has gone through major changes. Of course, everybody notices the major construction that goes on everyday at MHS, but the major difference is the addition of 450 extra students. This year, the Freshman have been added to MHS. This is the first time that the freshman have been added to the high school since

the days when Pierce Middle School was Merrillville Junior-Senior High School. Of course, you will have some of the upperclassmen resenting the freshman, but this change will benefit MHS in the long run. Also, the students will be mature faster than if they were still in junior high. Being a freshman at MHS will help them in the long run.

"I like MHS better than Harrison. At MHS, I've met a lot of new friends. Also, I feel like I contribute to the high school by attending sporting events and being involved with extracurricular activities," said Brandon Nelson, fresh-

man. A good percentage of the freshmen said that they enjoy MHS more than junior high school.

"At MHS, the teachers treat me like I'm a mature person. Back in junior high, teachers were a little easier on me

if I goofed off, but I can't goof off in high school if I want to go to a good college," said Ben Jarvis, freshman.

The only thing the freshman dislike about MHS is that the upperclassmen are a little harsh on them. "My brothers always pick on me just because I'm a freshman and they are seniors," said T o u l a Vasilopoulos, freshman. "It seems like the freshmen at MHS have no rights, but I guess that's

the way it is," states Vasilopoulos.

The freshman have made an impact this year at MHS. They should be proud to be the first freshman class to attend MHS, so they should be role models to the rest of the incoming freshman for the years that lie ahead of them. The Class of '96' has a great responsibility ahead of them. It is up to them to make the rest of the incoming freshmen classes feel comfortable at MHS. I think that they will get the job done.

• by Ryan Schafer and George Vasilopoulos



Blackboards do exist! Mary Ann Bertram, Spanish teacher, explains tensions to her class on an actual blackboard. As remodeling was completed the foreign language department opted to keep blackboards instead of the new marker boards many of the other departments went with.





Jason Hastings
Kara Hazi
Robert Heath
Jeff Hendricks
Clinton Henry
Erica Hiatt
Nick Hilbourne
Melissa Hilgeman

Nikki Holm
James Hong
Joseph Horst
Jamie Hosfeld
Jason Hudock
Clifford Hughes
Jeremy Hummel
Christopher Hutzil

Heidi Janiszewski
Michelle Janiszewski
Benjamin Jarvis
Rhodena Jefferson
Becky Jenkins
Judy Jennings
Jason Jezuit
Marcus Johnson

Michael Jonson
Brian Joseph
Jason Joselyn
Shannon Joselyn
Eric Jostes
Sreten Jovanovic
Beth Jusko
David Kamano

Sarah Kathcart
Jessica Keehn
Kevin Keightley
Aubrey Kelley
Harriette Kelly
Deborah Kings
Kimberly Kintz
Janet Kiraly

William Koldus
Robert Komar
Jamie Komenda
David Kordys
Michael Kostelnik
Keith Krajewski
Melinda Krcoski
Thomas Krejci

Kevin Kuypers
Aaron La Plante
Dana La Rue
Kenneth Lach
Jeremiah Lagalo
Amy Lain
Corey Lake
Joshua Larson

Ilija Lazoski
Henry Lech
Jason Ledbetter
Scott Lee
Aaron Lewis
Danny Lewis
Julie Lewis
Nicholas Lile

Timothy Little
Kimberly Lobody
Jason Lockhart
John Logothetis
Robert Long
David Lopez
Sara Luttinen
Bret Macaluso

No more crowding in the halls! With the addition of several more halls this year students were able not only to make it to class on time but actually stop for other purposes along the way.

Explaining the day's lesson English teacher Barb Koby stresses the importance of getting homework done. As in the past missed homework assignments mean detentions and other punishments.



Beth Macy
Marianne Maj
Bianca Malave
Dave Maldonado
Ann Marie Malec
Aaron Malerich
Lisa Malo
Jason Malocha
Paul Mandich
Megan Manoski
Nicholas Marchuk
Michelle Marcum
John Maretich
Kristen Marler
Jonathan Marlow
Philip Martin

Robert Martinez
Keith Mashburn
Sean Mc Connell
Sean Mc Connell
Missy Mc Cory
Steven Mc Farland
James Mc Gan
Keith Mc Indoo





Karen Mc Kay
William Mc Kee
Jamie Mc Kenney
Amy Meisler
Nicole Melcic
James Metros
Richard Mezo
Julie Milak

Brandon Millard
Jason Miller
Ryan Miller
Sonya Mitchell
Jason Mohoi
Kelli Moore
Laura Morales
Robert Moravec

Emily Morton
Maryann Munguia
Chris Muvceski
Linda Mysliwiec
Scotty Mytyk
Melissa Nanglovic
Brian Neely
Brandon Nelson

Claudia Neri
Alexander Neskoski
Shaun Newman
Kevin Newton
Matt Nichols
Harley Niles
Kristie Noel
Jennifer Nowak

Erik Obregon
Samuel Odisho
Kimberly Onoff
Carla Ortega
Adam Orze
Melissa Osteen
Becky Paine
Maria Papadakkis

Brandon Papadatos
Anna Papalazarou
Sarah Parduhn
Michele Parker
Samatha Parker
Brett Parkis
Lori Pavlopoulos
Tanya Pawl

Stephanie Peck
Megan Pendley
Christina Peterson
Mario Petalis
Christine Pierce
Hank Pimentel
Lorance Pionaritis
Jason Podgorski

Melissa Potts
Bridgette Prashak
April Pratscher
Kevin Preuss
Jennifer Price
Rachel Price
Ronda Price
Bart Pruzin

Joey Pastelnik
Miroslav Radiceski
Carmen Ramirez
Bryan Ramos
Jeffrey Rangeloff
Anthony Reddix
Jason Reed
Joel Reed

FRESHMEN Renahan-Vurva

Krystal Renahan
Amanda Richardson
Jason Rico
Dede Riddle
Jason Rivera
Michael Rivera
Karen Robelia
Amado Rosas



Lindsay Ruesch
Margaret Runion
Pamela Ruschak
Maggie Sanson
Jamie Santeramo
Brian Schiefer
Travis Schmidt
Bradley Schulte



Jeremy Schwandt
Anthony Setlak
Brennan Seydel
Monica Shaffer
Heather Shawver
Jessica Sheehan
Aaron Shelton
Solomon Shih



Mathew Siecker
Theresa Sievers
Andrea Simpson
Jason Simpson
Carl Sims
Melissa Skratsky
Jamie Smith
Brian Snelson



Nadia Sobh
Amy Sopczak
Sandra Soto
Jill Stamate
Thomas Stanzione
Angela Stapinski
Marino Stah
Melissa Stefanski



Kenneth Stobaugh
John Stompor
Sean Stribbling
Ilinka Suleski
Cristy Summers
Rose Swanke
Jared Tabor
Chad Tarry



Amy Taylor
Lisa Taylor
Tracy Taylor
Christy Tegman
Aarth Tejuja
William Thomas
Erin Thompson
Kelly Thorn



Kristine Todd
Jameck Tolefree
Maria Trajkov
Matt Trajkovski
Kristy Truck
Michael Trykos
Teddy Umphres
Christina Underwood



Ryan Valentine
Lisa Van Berg
Toula Vasilopoulos
Marc Vassallo
Mike Villanueva
Nikola Vlahovic
Jason Vlasic
Jason Vurva



p lanning

for the future

Being an underclassman is a tough responsibility, but the most important responsibility is in the academic aspect. Your freshman year will set the tone on what kind of student you are going to be. If you do not make the grades in your freshman year then how do you know that things will change later on in high school? It is tuff to change old habits especially when you are lazy. As a freshman, always look ahead for the future. Think about life after high school.

"It is important for me to do well in school because I want to be successful in life. If you do not get a post-secondary education then you are going to have it tough in the future," stated Toula Vasilopoulos, freshman. Many colleges and universities feel that it is the

students responsibility for their academic success in school. It is tough to motivate yourself to study every night, but get used to it if you want to go to college.

According to Indiana University statistics, the average college graduate makes over \$1500 month more than a high school graduate. Facts like that should make you want to work hard in high school, so that the college transition will be easier. "Even though I have a lot of time until I graduate from MHS, I want to look ahead to the future because I want to make a lot of money when I get older," states Brandon Nelson, freshman.

As underclassman, you have a lot of responsibilities ahead but do not put pressure on yourself. If you work hard, then everything will come easy to you. "I know that the future is very important, but I want to enjoy my high school days. I manage my time wisely with my studies, athletics, and my friends" states Ben Jarvis, freshman.

Also, another way that you

can get a post-secondary education is by attending a technical school. There are plenty of technical schools in the Chicagoland area. If you are the kind of student that hates school with a passion, then this might be for you. Technical schools teach you hands-on training in a different variety of fields such as a mechanic, welder, carpenter, plumber, etc.

Remember, when you pick out your schedules, make sure you take classes that will help you in the future. If you are thinking of attending a college or a university, take college-preparatory classes. But, if you are planning on going to a technical school, then take a variety of industrial arts classes.

Whatever you do after high school, make sure that you will do the right thing for yourself. Remember, it is important to think about life after high school so make sure that a post-secondary education is a part of your plans.

** by Ryan Schafer and George Vasilopoulos*

One's freshman year is not too soon to start looking ahead to future education plans and thinking about the classes that are needed.



Stepheni Wagner
Angela Wallace
Nigel Walton
Daniel Waskosky
Jason Wayne
Kelly Webster
Scott Wellestat
Sarah Wesley

Cory West
Paxton Williams
Samatha Williams
Sharetta Williams
Terrance Williamson
Janie Wilson
Roger Wilson
Megan Wojciechowski

Damian Wood
Alyssa Wright
Angela Wusik
Eric Youngren
Jonathan Zakutansky
Keith Zellers
Rebecca Zolod
Christine Zorich

p arents

at school

Students whose parents work at school, have some nice advantages and other big disadvantages.

What a drag! How would you feel if your parents followed you to school each day? Personally, I wouldn't like it, but several other students whose parents are staff members here at MHS feel otherwise. Beth Jusko, freshman, whose mother works at the Wellness Program, likes the idea of her mother working at the school for many reasons.

Some advantages of a parent working at the school are obvious. "Hey I forgot my lunch money today... not to worry, I can just ask my

mom for a few bucks since she's here." Another positive is that it is easier to make sudden after-school plans.

In life, there are two sides to every issue, so there are also drawbacks to having parents at school. Some students feel somewhat restricted in their actions. Others don't like the feeling that they are being watched or "spied on."

A final negative some students claim has nothing to do with being in school. It has to do with being on va-

cation. Imagine having the same vacation time as your parents every year for the whole time that you are in school. Granted, for a while it is nice to have parents home, but not for ten weeks straight.

On the other hand, some of the students hardly see their parents at school.

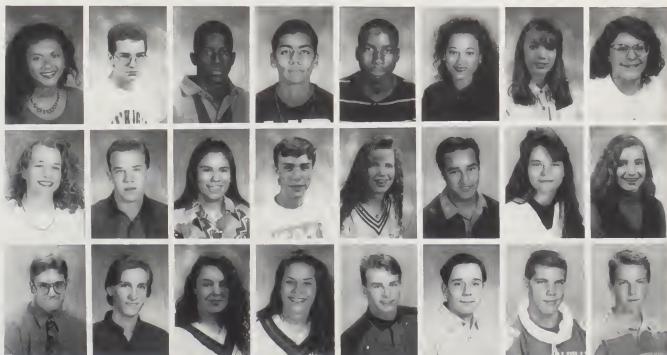
With their parents keeping an eye out for them, the kids sometimes feel restricted, but some people say that it keeps them in line.

• by Alan Hepp

Judy Adams
Michael Adams
Thad Agee
Arthur Aguilera
Bryan Allen
Kimberly Anderson
Jamie Aubin
Erica Azpeitia

Erin Bachich
Eric Baden
Monica Baez
Travis Bainbridge
Melissa Bair
Robert Baldazo
Jamie Baldner
Jennifer Bank

Ian Barnett
Samuel Barnett
Jamie Bartochowski
Jamie Bartz
John Beckwith
David Beller
Jason Berk
Bradford Bernard



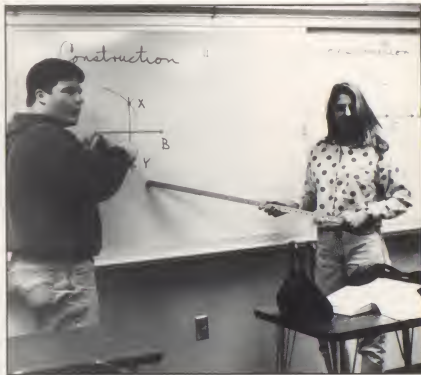


Concentrating hard

Tyson Owen, sophomore works hard to improve his typing skills. Keyboarding skills have become important for all students in this computer age.

The reason is . . .

Mike Mikesell and Kari Dombrowsky, sophomores explain how they found "x" and "y" in their construction in Bob Brown's geometry class.



Jennifer Bewley
Brian Bice
Vanessa Bielawski
Erick Black
Chennetta Blacknell
Jamie Blanco
Stephen Bobos
Shelley Boedecker

Thomas Bolden, II
Stacey Bondra
Danny Borman
Kellie Bosenbark
Michelle Braden
Melissa Breeden
Steven Breeden
Richard Brodner

Paul Brooks
Daniel Brown
Yolanda Brown
James Bruicer
Sara Bruicer
Dawn Buchko
Gina Budzevski
Shannon Bukovac

SOPHOMORES Buncich-Griffith

Jamie Buncich
Kathleen Cannon
Kevin Cannon
Cynthia Carlson
Tina Castellanos
Christina Celakoski
Jason Chandler
Jamie Childress

Stephanie Cole
Warren Conner
Angela Corea
Samantha Corrigan
Kelly Coughlin
Eric Culp
Michael Curiel
Amy Cyphert

James Daniels
Robert Daumer
Albert Davila
Ronald Davis
Benjamin De Leon
Kevin De Young
Jesus Del Real
Kellee Derico

Christina Dickerson
Lisa Dimitroff
Jeffrey Dobbs
Kyle Dobiacki
Melissa Dobis
Kari Dombrowsky
Jonathan Drake
Erick Drew

Deirdre Elizondo
Matt Ellis
Kevin Ermy
Yvonne Escott
Telega Ezell
Jason Faldzinski
Jamie Fantin
Patrick Farnbaugh

Jessica Figueroa
Gregory Fleming
Matthew Florer
Mindell Foley
Leeanne Forbes
Kathryn Foreman
LaToya Francis
Dean Francos

Christopher Freshour
Carlos Frevrt
Leah Frink
Cynthia Frost
Alex Galle
Simone Galle
Sergio Galvan
Cynthia Garcia

Tommy Gasperson
Heather Geller
Amy Geruska
Heather Gilbert
Denise Gilbey
Lena Gillfillan
Jessica Gnemi
Cheryl Gonzales

Jennifer Gonzales
Pamela Good
Daryl Gordon
Gordana Gorgijovski
Melanie Gotch
Jamie Gratzner
David Greenberg
Lawrence Griffith



Michael Clark
Donald Cole

Jennifer Dainton
Daniela Damjanoski

Milan Dezelich
Summer Dicken

Jennifer Duplaga
Ryan Dykstra

Brett Fedak
Sarah Felinski

Marianna Frangos
Susan Frenchik

Raquel Garcia
Shawn Garcia

David Gonzales
Gloria Gonzales

Michael Guernsey
Valerie Gutjahr

Taking part

Beth Hosfeld, sophomore participates in a skit for the Revue. This year the Revue featured music from "The Age of Aquarius."

I need to sign up. Guidance secretary Barbara Richter writes Jessica Hodges, sophomore a receipt. This is one of the many little jobs the guidance secretaries are responsible for getting done.

Was that the first bell? Sophomores Michelle Lenart and Brian Hogan compare notes in the five minutes before the homeroom tardy bell.

When I was a sophomore

When I was a Sophomore I knew everything,
or so I thought.

George Bush was well on his way to being President,
or so I thought.

The school was going to be finished soon,
or so I thought.

It wouldn't be that hot in June,
or so I thought.

Life was merely a simple game,
or so I thought.

Everyone must the same,
or so I thought.

School was filled with lots to do,
or so I thought.

There was just so much that was new,
or so I thought.

Looking back I realize,
that what I thought
was all wrong,
because now I know.

The point of this little rhyme is simple:
You don't know anything ...
until you realize that you know nothing.

• Alan Hepp

The sophomore class entered
MHS and learned their way
around their new school.
Their advantage was never having
to be the youngest class in the
school. They also saw a number
of familiar faces on the faculty
since several teachers were also
transferred to the high school
from Harrison and Pierce
Middle Schools this year.

Michael Guzman
Daniel Hackett
Irene Halkias
Cheryl Hamilton
Angela Harris
Johnita Harris
Marcus Harris
Daniel Harvey

Melinda Hatfield
Monica Hayduk
Kelly Hegedus
Carrie Heitmann
April Henry
Brian Hepburn
Nicole Hiatt
A'Ronda Hickerson



THE MORE THE MERRIER

Jessica Hodges
Christine Hodgetts
Robert Hodor
Brian Hogan
Laura Hosfield
Tina Huffman
Joseph Hussey
Mark Hylek

Beth Irby
Rhonda Jackson
Erin Janovsky
Jeff Japkowski
Ayanna Jefferson
Christopher Jensen
Cheryl John
David Jones

Jeannette Jones
Mark Jones
Michelle Jones
John Kadelak
Anita Kajmakoski
Cvetlana Kajmakoski
Sarah Kendrick
Kimberly Kenney

Jason Kester
Angela Kilgore
Dannien Kirk
Brad Kleivickos
Amy Koczur
Keith Kopac
Erin Kora
Bradley Kosac

Colleen Kosmatka
Suzana Kostur
Mark Kratkoczki
Steve Krstevski
Trenton Krueger
Andrew Kurowski
Christopher La Rue
Richard Lahart

Erin Lain
Heath Lang
James Lash
Kimberly Lashenik
SheRai Latimer
Angel Le Loup
David Ledbetter
Shan-Hwei Lee

Jefferey Leeper
Daniel Leka
Michelle Lenart
Mark Lengyel
Tom Lepp
Matt Lesniak
Keith Lester
Pherren Lewis

Philip Lewis
Paul Liakos
John Lindsey
Carina Lira
Sara Litt
Sarah Lockhart
Joseph Loehmer
Kristin Lucia

George Luna
Anthony Lux
Richard Lyons
Bernardo Madrinan
Jeremy Maiden
Nanette Malerich
Laura Maness
Brian Manning

Photo
Not
Available

SOPHOMORES Marias-Rodriguez

Jason Marias
Stephanie Markovits

Kevin Mehay
Beth Meissler

Douglas Molchan, Jr.
Megan Moloney

Trying to improve. Sara Litty, sophomore, tries to get that extra inch. Since the development of the new Wellness Center, many students take advantage of the fine facilities.

Look at me! Mike Valocin, proudly displays his "You Can't Take It With You" t-shirt. The fall play was a big success for all involved.



Riste Niceski
Erin Niles

Vera Ostojic
Jason Owen

Lucinda Paz
Raymond Paz

Elizabeth Piazza
Amy Picard

Jennifer Randolph
Tom Rattray

Rita Robinson
Aleisha Rodriguez



THE MORE THE MERRIER



Cassandra Marsh
Warren Martinez
Christopher Martino
Emmanuel Mc Cann
Corry Mc Dermott
Kevin Mc Gee
Kevin Mc Kay
Ricky Mc Millan

Christopher Melnik
Phillip Mendoza
Karl Meyer
Paullyn Michael
Michael Milesell
Curtis Minchuk
Michael Mitrevski
Lori Modglin

Denise Moody
Ralph Morales
Leslie Mote
Lawrence Murphy
Dusko Musikovski
Matthew Navarro
Katarina Nedeljkovic
Jenny Newnum

Claude Nix
Kosta Nuses
Kirche Obetkovski
Mandy Olejnik
Joy Oliver
Kirstin Olson
Nick Orlich
Ben Ortegón

Tyson Owen
Nancy Packovski
Katheryn Pahl
Roshanta Parker
Tracy Parker
Ryan Parlock
Mary Parsons
Dessa Pavichevich

Diandra Peck
Molly Penquite
Shelley Penzato
Edward Perez
Mary Perosky
Erin Peterson
Steven Peterson
Pavle Petrovski

Dionne Plasencia
Melissa Polen
Daniel Price
Jennifer Rachford
April Rader
Kathleene Rais
Danielle Ramirez
Eric Randolph

Kristopher Reberg
Ryan Reithel
Leann Richmond
Tricia Rietman
Van Ristovski
Sidney Rivera
Crayton Robinson
Kimberly Robinson

Christopher Rodriguez
Luciana Rodriguez
Ryan Rongers
Brian Rose
Jeff Rosko
Lindsey Roth
Jonathan Rowe
Ernesto Santos

SOPHOMORES

Schafer-Yambrisak

Kevin Schafer
Mark Schwinn
Lauren Scott
Matt Sell
Alicia Shaver
Samantha Sherwood
John Shores
Jonathan Shultz



Thomas Shultz
George Sievers
Elizabeth Simunic
Kevin Smith
Latasha Smith
Kristen Sommer
Jimmy Sotiroski
Jennifer Spitz



Jodi Springman
Nicole St. Germain
Wesley Starrick
Richard Stazinski
Renata Stefanoski
Melissa Stelter
Donna Stojasavljevic
Kristin Strawnhun



Robin Stupar
Carrie Sullivan
Tina Sunny
Jason Surdzia
Jeannette Svitko
Steven Szot
Lara Tamalunas
Vesna Tanaskoski



Michael Thien
Kenoshera Thompson
Tina Todoroska
Brian Trivette
Vlado Trepeski
Tanjareo Turner
Maryann Vale
Michael Valovcin



Amanda Van Dusseldorp
Diana Van Dusseldorp
Nikki Van Till
Gary Van Volkenburgh
Bernadette Vargas
Andrea Vasas
Jennifer Vega
Nadia Venegas



James Vermillion
Carlos Villanueva
Vanessa Virgo
Abigail Vivo
Brandi Vucko
Christopher Vukin
David Walla
Erica Walla



Kelly Walters
Lakisha Warnsley
Marcy Wells
Jeremich Wells
Adam Wolzien
Ken Whitten
Dante Williams
Teikesha Williams



Scott Wimmer
Amy Winter
Michael Wisniewski
Erica Woldt
Jennifer Woods
Jarques Wordlaw
Joseph Wotell
Erika Yambrisak



THE MORE THE MERRIER



Time to relax. "You don't say!" Sandy Marsh, sophomore, enjoys some free time at lunch. For some students this was the only break in a busy schedule.



Dancing the night away. Curtis Minchuk and Angel LeLoup, sophomores, enjoy each other's company on the dance floor at one of MHS' many dances.

Community minded. Lakeisha Warnsley, Irene Halkias, and Mandy Olejnik listen intently to representatives from Ball State in an attempt to beautify Merrillville.



Vanessa Yaros
Lisa York
Misty York
Alisa Zak
Juan Zamora
Terry Zapinski
Nick Zaronias
Bridgette Zellers

Susan Zirkel
Julia Zolondz
Curtis Koma
Shawn Lane
Blaine Katarzyska
Bianca Malone
Sarah Orpin
Quendylin Perkins
Adam Russell
Jeremy Sanders
Jason Seach
Brad Schneider
David Serrano
Chris Shivers
Tony Thack
Scott Varpio
Michelle Varpio
Laurie Wytowicz

g^{eneration}

awaits results

President Clinton's goals and accomplishments are going to affect our generation.

November 3, 1992 was a landmark event in our country's political history. It was the first time a Democrat had been elected to the presidency in 12 years. Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton stepped in and took control of the country in January.

President Clinton's campaign promises stirred emotions in everyone HS students. President Clinton's goals and accomplishments are going to affect our generation for most of our lives.

"I would like to see President Clinton reduce the deficit, reform health care, and improve the infrastructure of the U.S." commented Jason Janiszewski, junior.

On the other hand, Diane Sindicowski, junior said, "I want Bill Clinton to legalize marijuana, lower the drinking age to 18, create more homes

for the homeless, AIDS awareness classes for middle schools and high school students, and exercise stronger handgun control."

"I want Clinton to put our economy back on track, increase governmental funds and put a stop to the squandering of the country's money," added Tanjaree Turner, sophomore.

While Kyle Nagy, junior would have President Clinton "accomplish world peace, and unlike George Bush, do something for the environment and maybe even the rain forest."

"I would like to see President Clinton improve the economy and try to solve the problems within our own country along with those in other countries," said Jaime Bartochowski, sophomore.

"World peace and more employment for people in the U.S.

and get us out of the recession" are the top priorities of Ryan Rongers, sophomore.

However, Mike Mikesell, sophomore is looking on the lighter side of things. He commented, "I want him to make some smart moves, keep his wife out of the White House, and keep his daughter out of pictures!"

It's true that President Clinton made a lot of too good to be true promises during his campaign, but this has been the case for over 200 years. However, now that all of the campaigning is over, he's finding that keeping those promises is a lot harder than he anticipated. Yet each decision that he makes is going to directly affect us in some way. That is why we have to always exercise our right to vote.

• by Erin O'Deen and Valerie Miller

Wendy Adams
Catherine Aimee
Tiffany Albee
Kenneth Alderman
Timothy Aliff
Monica Anguiano
Josie Arena
Candace Amor

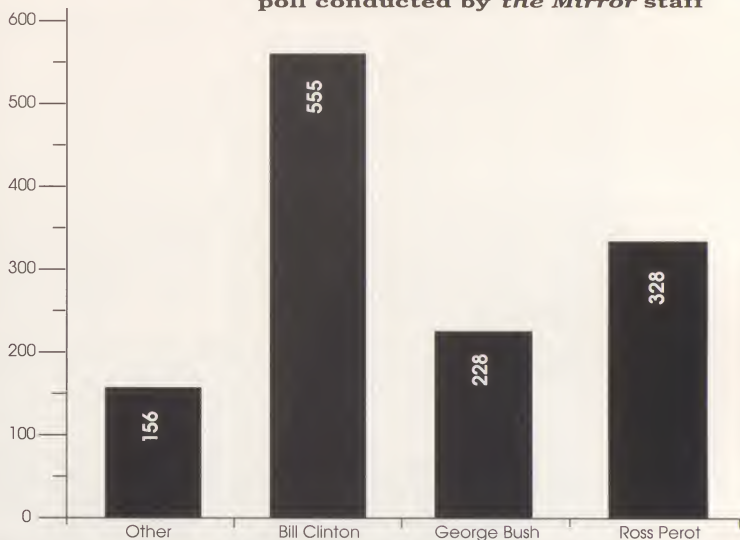
Ericka Ashworth
Cornelius Ausborn
Gregory Bachich
Eric Baden
Kari Bailey
Michael Bailey
Dimitrio Bairahtaris
Christopher Baker

Jody Balcerak
Joseph Bali
Mark Bane
Doreen Bank
Christopher Bard
Anthony Bartolomeo
Kelly Beckett
Lisa Bell



Students elect Clinton

Below are the results of an all-school poll conducted by *the Mirror* staff



Paul Berkebile
Molly Bernstein
Allen Berrier
Alexis Berta
Noel Bertoch
Victoria Bettin
Zarko Blagojevski
Arturo Blanco

Steven Blatz
Sally Bromiley
Adella Blondet
Michelle Bobalik
Kevin Bobos
Todd Bogolia
Ranigan Bonilla
Michelle Borman

Sean Bowman
Bobby Bozinovski
Monica Braden
Christopher Brown
Cindy Brown
Nicole Brown
Sara Bruner
Jennifer Bryan

JUNIORS Bryant-Gorman

Terry Bryant
Stacy Budzevski
Jennifer Burrell
Angela Byrom
Scott Caldwell
Jeffrey Cantwell
Michael Carden
Michael Cardwell

Daniel Celakoski
Jamie Chambliss
Amber Clark
Jamine Clark
Josh Clements
Robert Cleveringa
Chester Cochran
Julie Cole

Benita Cookston
Alex Correa
Patricia Craig
Brian Cram
Evan Crawford
Robert Crew
Michael Cszaszar
Bobi Cunningham

Candy Cunningham
Danielle Daugherty
Kara Davis
Heidi De Young
Merla De Young
Brien Delich
Lisa Derico
Olivia Dojcinovski

Brandon Doneski
Josh Drasich
Martin Drayton
Paula Dres
Rene Dunn
Sunnye Durham
Mandy Echterling
Martin Edgington

Koyce Eichensehr
Gerald Elenz
Stacy Elliott
Arte Emmanoilidis
Michelle Ensign
Scott Erney
Daniel Evans
David Evans

Kimberly Evans
Megan Evans
Nicole Ferlus
Laura Filan
Marie Claire Foster
Eugene Freeman
Emily Frizzell
John Furto

Scott Gallagher
Jason Galooziz
Brad Garity
Daniel Garza
Eva Gawayrs
Thomas Gayda
Michael Gearhart
Joanna Giagola

Angela Glavas
Czar Goetz
Nathan Gombus
Alex Gonzalez
Diane Gonzalez
Jose Gonzalez
Wade Goodson
Ann Gorman





Riste Gorseski
Brandon Grace
Geoffrey Gronowski
Eric Guerrero
Danyelle Gunn
Kimberly Gutierrez
Rudy Gutierrez
Celena Hall

Scott Hall
Jacqueline Harms
Mike Harney
John Haro
Mark Haro
Clarence Harris
Paul Harris
Darnieshia Henderson

Jodi Hendricks
Jennifer Herbert
Karl Herr
Daniel Hidalgo
Crystal Higgins
James Hinojosa
Melinda Hollandsworth
Tori Hughes

Sarah Hummel
Abigail Igarra
Steven Iglandza
Thomas Ilievski
Ray Jackson
Ace Janeski
Blagoja Janeski
Jason Janiszewski

Julie Jewell
Derek Johnson
Brian Jones
Suzana Josifoska
Amy Judge
William Kadalak
Lupce Kajmakoski
Aric Kaminsky

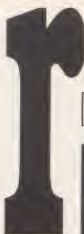
Dimitrios Karas
Victor Karbowski
Joseph Kendrick
Karen Kessler
Jennifer Kings
Kristen Kim
Alison Klaubo
Lee Konicke

Gordana Koroskoska
Tatiana Kostur
Jeff Krol
Jennifer Krol
Charles Krueger
Matthew Kuzma
Justin LaPlante
Melissa Lagalo

Ashley Lake
Jon Lambert
Phillip Langbehn
Kathryn Laver
Timothy Lavery
Gil-Hwei Lee
Brian Lehr
Tanya Lesniak

James Lewis
Margaret Liebenenthal
Megan Lindsay
Jason Little
Stacey Little
Stephanie Little
Ricky Lopez
Sarah Lopez

Victor Lopez
Raymond Lucero



Relationships

the best parts

Tanya McColium
Christopher Medlin

Beth Minninger
Angela Mish

April Mullins
Jennifer Mullins

Catherine Navarro
David Nelson

Maxel Ochoa
Steven Oh

Benjamin Parrish
Sarah Parrish

Joseph Piazza
Alfred Popelica

Krista Richardson
Christina Ridgley



All through high school, relationships come and go. As people mature and grow, from being scared freshmen to being cool seniors, sometimes their relationships stick but most of the time, they change as people change.

"Having someone always there to listen to you and to tell your problems to. Knowing they will understand and not tell anyone else about your problems. No matter how stupid you act or the stupid things you do, they will still be there for you." Emily Frizzell, junior.

"Being able to confide in someone who will take what you say into consideration. Knowing that you will always have someone to share your hopes and dreams with. If you're in a good relationship, you will learn how to build trust in people. You also learn how to deal with problems better because all relationships come across certain problems." Cindy Brown, junior.

"It's definitely the part when you can-

Get close on the dance floor.

Abigail Igarta and Wilfred Vivo, juniors, take a moment to share quality time at Prom. The dance, which was held May 15 at the Serbian Hall, was a big event. The highlight of the evening came when juniors Tony Bartolomeo and Monica Origel were named Prom King and Queen, respectively. (John Bir photo)

have enough patience." Chris Wilkerson, junior.

"The best part of being in a relationship is the happiness and life you share with each other, knowing you always have somebody there to pick you up when you're down, keep you company and make you laugh. But the best is when you make that person happy and you see that they truly love you, and nobody can take that love away." Cathy Aimone, junior.

In this stage in our lives, relationships are forever changing. We meet new people, share new experiences and from that we grow and mature.

• by Erin O'Deen and Valerie Miller

not talk to other people without him or her mistaking it for something else. Then you begin to question trust and that leads to fighting and before you know it, it's over." Kim Evans, junior.

"Sometimes you have to pretend you're somebody that you're not. It takes time to be in a relationship and sometimes your partner does not





Justin Lyons
Peter Maggio
David Mahaffey
Jennifer Malocha
Alexander Marchuk
Shannon Mason
Stanley Matunas
Michelle Mayers

Michael Mcnendez
Jennifer Metros
Peter Milak
Pero Milev
Thomas Milevski
Jeremy Miller
Rachel Miller
Shawn Miller

Matthew Mutch
Alexandra Mitchell
Diane Mitchell
Christina Moffitt
Lisa Moke
Ricky Momirovich
Nicole Moravec
John Morgan

Mario Munguia
Kristian Muniz
Erin Murphy
JoAnn Myers
Michele Mysliwiec
Kyle Nagy
Terrance Narkum
Jeremy Nash

Kimberly Nemeth
Kate Neskoski
Sara Nicholls
Michael Niezgoda
Sean O'Hara
Christopher O'Mara
Tina Oaks
Julie Obetkovski

Jason Olesek
Wanda Olivera
Monica Origel
William Origel
Alejandra Ortiz
Bryan Osborne
Stephanie Pagel
Willie Parker

Sharon Pavnicek
Violeta Pecovski
Stacy Peek
Donald Peirick
Melissa Peterson
Brian Petyo
Robin Phillips
Ted Phillips

Christine Pozgay
Anastasia Prashchak
Michael Pratscher
Mitzi Pratt
Paul Puskas
Justin Ramage
Jenika Redding
Rosita Reyna

Kristina Riese
Allison Rimer
Daniel Rivera
Christine Robelia
Claudia Rodriguez
Kathy Rodriguez
Shawn Rodriguez
Christopher Rohder

JUNIORS Romanik - Vertucci

Antoinette Romanik
Romica Rose
Brian Ruschak
Joanne Samuel
Manjula Santos
Cheryl Santos
Dana Schlinger
Michael Schmid

Dawn Schneider
Jason Schneider
Patrick Schultz
Michael Schouten
Becky Schreiber
Ryan Seiberling
Kon Seifert
John Sell

Jennifer Shaffer
Benjamin Shapley
Byron Shea
Ryan Shelton
Eric Sheridan
Daniel Shih
Brian Schultz
Kelly Siecker

Kimberly Simpson
Harry Sims
Terri Simstad
Diane Srimkoski
Staci Skura
Alan Slade
Brian Smith
Gregory Smith

Jennifer Smith
William Smith
Amanda Snover
Jennifer Snowden
Adel Sobh
Valerie Solan
Tim Sopko
Amy Sorchevich

Valerie Sparks
Annet Spero
Nicole Spurgeon
Heather Stamate
Lisa Stanchina
Chris Stark
Elizabeth Stefanoski
Michael Stille

Rebecca Stinnett
Donna Stojasavljevic
Kimberly Stout
John Sut
Kenneth Swan
Jason Swigon
Brandie Swisher
Laura Terek

Leandra Thames
Lakesha Thomas
Chakeba Tindal
Daniel Titus
Margaret Toledo
Rachel Torres
Alex Trajkov
Julie Trajkovski

Cornell Tucker
Jessica Uribe
Amy Valentine
Christopher Van Til
Aaron Vanderwaarf
Anthony Vassallo
Cory Veal
Erick Vertucci



p

assing

the test

worry about whether you will pass the written test and what the driving examiner will ask you to do. Will you have to

"I was really nervous when I went to get my license. I thought I was going to screw up on the driving test, but after it was

finished I realized that it was no big deal." said Stephanie Perryman, senior.

The driving portion itself isn't always the scariest part of the test. Some times there are other distracting factors to deal with.

"When I began to take the test, a heavy downpour of icy rain began to fall.

This was definitely the worst part of the test." said Kyle Nagy, junior

• by Valerie Miller

Getting a driver's license brings countless freedoms, but first you have to satisfy the driving examiner.



Put your seatbelts on. Senior John Koritko and junior Don Binkley rev up the engine as the two prepare to hit the mean streets of Merrillville.

parallel park? Will he try to tick you? What will your friends say if they find out you failed?

the worst part of the test." said Kyle Nagy, junior

• by Valerie Miller

OK now, please make a left turn at the next stop light.

What are you doing? You must use your signal when you turn, and you didn't make a complete stop. I'm sorry, I have no choice but to fail you. You can try again in two weeks.

This is one of the biggest fears of a new driver. Driving a car is one thing, but earning your license is another. You have to



Amber Vestal
Carl Virgo
Wilfred Vivo
David Vode
Larry Wade
Anthony Walla
Latrice Washington
Stephanie Washington

Suzanne Waters
Dina Weis
Shannon Welch
Sandra Weliczko
Krista West
Melody Wienen
Christopher Wilkerson
Marquis Williams

Rebecca Williams
Deric Wilson
Andrea Wirtz
Timothy Wiser
Patillia Woods
Gregory Wray
Rebecca Yager
Erin Yeoman

Christina Yurechko
Robert Zamora
Carrie Zapinski
Frank Zarakas

SENIORS



Construction goes on. The class of 1993 has spent its entire high school career under construction. They moved from classroom to classroom as the building progressed. They even got to enjoy some of the new technology. Still the building won't be done until they have gone.





MERRILLVILLE
Class of 1993



Out with the old, in with the new. New tables and chairs replaced the old arm-style desks in the early spring. Senior Anthony Pampalone sits at one of the new tables and listens carefully to the instructions of his math teacher.

It's tradition. Seniors pose for the formal panoramic picture of the class of 1993. Then they change clothes for the crazy clothes version. Seniors can buy copies of both pictures to save the memory.

Following the recipe

Senior Mary Baroevich measures the ingredients for her cooking assignment in the new kitchen. Home economics classes accidentally set off fire alarms several times this year because the wrong sensors were installed in the cooking labs.



I got one.

Fred Hong clutches one of the balloons from the traditional balloon drop symbolizing the end to graduation ceremonies. Graduation was held at the Radisson although some seniors would have preferred Demaree Stadium.



Stefanie Ahrens. Aisha Lynn Anderson. Michelle Angeloff-Honor Society 11,12. Cary Anunson-Tennis 9; Track 11; Spanish Club 9. Nicky Baldner.



Mary Kay Baroevich. Stephanie Bartz-Quest 12; HERO 12. Michelle L. Baucom. Ryan Patrick Bayer. Jennifer Beck-Poms 9; Cheerleader 10,11,12; Spanish Club 10,11; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; Student Government 9,10,11,12; SAC 10; FEA 10,11,12; Prom Court 11; Homecoming Court 11; Class Officer 10.



Jessica Beckwith. Angela Bednash-Poms 10,11,12; Cheerleader 9; Pep Club 10; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; SAC 12; FEA 10, 12; Homecoming Court 10. Mary Belter. Sarah Bernstein-Cheerleader 9,10,11,12; Girl's Choir 9; French Club 10,11,12; Honor Society 9,10,11; Student Government 9,10,11,12. Liza Bodnar-Volleyball 9,10; Drama Club 12.



Nikki L. Bogalia-Poms 9; Concert Choir 9; Quest 11. **Chris Bondra**-Tennis 10,11,12; Baseball 9,11,12; SADD 12. **Jason Bontrager**-Football 9; Baseball 9,11,12; Spanish Club 12; Environmental Club 11. **Lisa Borens**-Swimming Manager 10; Sunshine Society 10; Concert Choir 9,11,12; Girl's Choir 10; Drama Club 12. **Tami Borman**-Track Manager 10; Sunshine Society 11; Honor Society 9,11,12; Key Club 10, 11; SADD 11.

Patty Bonnnharaj-Newspaper 9. **Robert Brant**-Cross Country 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12. **Krylesa Deja Bratcher**-Cross Country 9; Concert Choir 11; Girl's Choir 9,10; Student Government 11, 12. **Christina Briggs**-Cross Country 11,12; Basketball 10; Track 11. **Rob Brodner**-Golf 10; Swimming 10,12; Baseball 9,12; German Club 11,12; JETS club 11,12; Honor Society 11,12.

Christopher Bronowski-Creative Writing Club 11; Student Government 12; Key Club 12. **Barbie S. Brooks**-Swimming 9,12; Concert Band 9, 10,11; Pep Band 10,11. **Amy Brown**-Concert Choir 9; Quest 9. **Ross J. Brown**-Quest 12. **Tremicka Bryant**-Tennis 12; Track 11; Pep Club 10,11; Concert Choir 9; Speech Team 10; FEA 10; FHA 10,11,12.

Melissa Buggie-Sunshine Society 10,11,12; Concert Choir 9, 11,12; Vocalteens 11,12; Girls Choir 10; Honor Society 9,10, 11, 12; SADD 12; Spring Play 12. **George Burke**-Football 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9,10,11; Baseball 9; FHA 11. **Kimberly Lynette Burke**. **Clara Shantell Burnett**-Powder Puff 10; Concert Choir 9; Girls Choir 10; Quest 12; FHA 10,11. **Mario Joaquin Butler-Del Rio**-Diving 10,11; Track 9,10,11; Marching Band 10,11,12; Pep Band 10,11; SADD 9,10,11,12; FEA 9; Symphonic Band 9,11,12; Revue 10; Fall Play 10; Spring Play 10.

Shelley Renee Byrnes-Volleyball 9; Newspaper 9. **Adam Byrom**-Football 9; Basketball 9,10,11,12; Baseball 9,10; Concert Choir 9; Vocalteens 10,11,12; FEA 12. **Irma Camacho**-Basketball 9,10; Track 9,10,11. **Josh Cantwell**-Football 9,10; Golf 10; German Club 10; JETS Club 10; SADD 12; FEA 10. **Craig Carden**.

Dan Certa-Concert Band 9; Pep Band 10,11; Newspaper 10; Yearbook 9; Debate Team 12; Honor Society 11,12; Symphonic Band 10,11; Revue 10,11,12. **Brandi Nicole Cheairs-HERO** 12. **Cynthia Randa Childress**-Volleyball 9; Swimming 10,11,12; Sunshine Society 10,11,12; Concert Choir 9; French Club 10; Yearbook 9; SADD 10. **Jennifer Collier**-Swimming 9,10,11,12; Sunshine Society 10,11,12; French 10; Newspaper 9. **Craig Collins**-Concert Band 9,10; Revue 11,12.

SENIORS Conn-Gorgijovski

Tracy Lynn Conn-Concert Choir 9,10,11; Quest 12. Jeffrey T. Cook-Baseball 9,10. Liz Correa-Volleyball 9,10; Track 9,10; French Club 10. Nancy Coto. Jeffrey W. Craig.

Alison Dainton-Poms 9,10,11,12 captain; Concert Choir 9; Student Government 10; Homecoming Court 12.

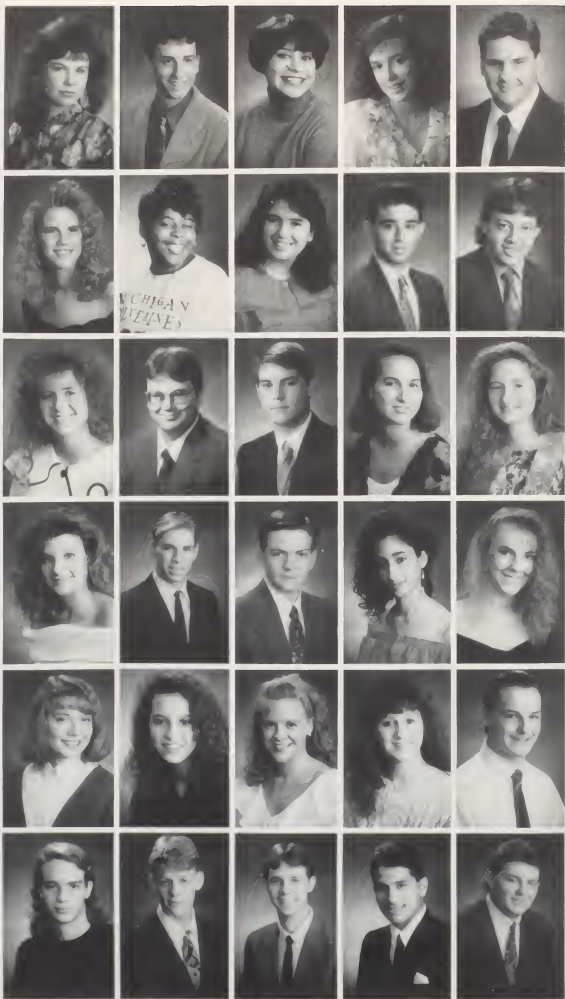
Todnie Davies. Amy Denham-Pep Club 11,12; Games Club 11; Spell Bowl 9,10,11,12; JETS Club 11; Honor Society 9,11,12; JETS Team 11. David DeSalle. Danny Joe Dickerson II-Concert Band 9.

Sonja Doneski-Poms 9,10; Pep Club 11; Girls Choir 9; French Club 11,12; Newspaper 11; Honor Society 11; Student Government 11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12. Jon Dulla-German Club 11,12. John Duplaga-Soccer 9,10,11,12; Concert Choir 9,10,11,12; Vocalteens 10,11,12; German Club 10,11,12; Honor Society 11,12; IU Honors Program Germany 11. Karyn L. Durkin-Gymnastics 9,10,12; Concert Choir 9; Honor Society 9; Homecoming Court 10. Nicole Duval-National Forensics League 10.

Elizabeth Erny-Tennis 9,10; Poms 9; Girls Choir 9; Powder Puff 11,12. Josh Fedorchak-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9,10,11; German Club 10,11,12; Student Government 10. Danile S. Folz-Wrestling 9,10,11; JETS Club 12. Olga Fontanez-Pep Club 11; HERO 12; FEA 10; BPA 11; Powder Puff 10,11,12. Jennifer Renee Foster-Poms 10; Cheerleader 9; Quest 11; HERO 12; FEA 10; Powder Puff 10.

Kristen L. Freeman-Volleyball 9,10; Softball 10,11; Honor Society 9,11,12. Silvia Galinta. Heather A. Gallimore-Volleyball 9; Poms 9,11,12; French Club 10,11,12; Spell Bowl 11,12; Yearbook 9; Honor Society 11,12; Student Government 11,12; SADD 10,11; JETS Team 11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12. Shannon Ganga. Larry Gazafy-Baseball 10,12.

Mark Gilderleeve. Danny Giffilan-Wrestling 9,10,11. Norman M. Gill. Mauro Gonzalez. Borce Gorgijovski-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9,10; M Club 10,11,12.



Remembering

the past

Brian Cutler, Jacky Cvetkoska-Sunshine Society 10.

Memories. That is all the class of 1993 will have left after June 9. Many of these are good memories and many of these are bad. With all of these memories there is always something that will be missed the most.

Katie Grimmett said, "I think that I'll miss the routine of coming here everyday and of course I'll miss my friends."

Since many seniors going off to college they will have to adjust to the challenge of setting up their own schedules. There will not be the everyday routine of coming to school at the same time, going to six classes, and leaving at the same time.

With seniors graduating, many are going off in their own directions and leaving friends behind. Friends seem to be the one thing that MHS seniors will miss the most.

"I'm going to miss seeing my friends everyday," said Staci Lavery.

Going to college often means having to walk to classes that are often quite a distance from each. Also it means walking through rain and snow in many cases. So it is convient that during high school all of your classes are located in the same building.

Kristy Putnam said, "The one thing I will miss about MHS is the fact that all of my classes are in the same building so I don't have to walk around outside in the cold."

For many high school is the last schooling that they will receive. Many of these students will miss the teachers and having somewhere to go each day.

Jenny Berg said, "Having at least something to do."

"I will miss Mr. Hutch and Mr. Vermillion," said Heather Gallimore.

But for some of us high school is full of memories.

"1. Walking around in my coat all day so I won't freeze to death. 2. \$5.5-Tammy knows what that is. 3. The quick lines at lunch. I've never eaten lunch with so much ease! 4. Last but not least, the UPS man. He's made fourth and fifth hours so much fun!" said Crystal Releford.

We all have our own memories of MHS, no matter what they are it was an unforgettable experience.

• by Kimberly Richardson

Matthew J. Dipaola-Football 9; Tech Prep Club 12. Ken Dobiecki-Football 12; Tennis 10,11; Basketball 9; Baseball 9,10,11,12; German Club 10,11.

Thomas D. Dzuibla-Games Club 10,11,12; Concert Band 9,10,11; Pep Band 9,10,11; German Club 9,10,11,12; JETS Club 12; Drama Club 10,11; Speech Team 12; Honor Society 11,12; Environmental Club 12; SADD 12; BPA 10,11,12; Symphonic Band 9,10,11; IU Honors Program 11,12; Class Officer 12; Revue 11; Spring Play 10. Boh Eaton-Student Government 10,11,12.

Michelle Foster-Cheerleader 9; Concert Choir 12; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; FEA 12. Gregory A. Freeman-Football 10,12; Basketball 9; Baseball 9.

Michelle Gear. Nick Georgieski.

Philip Gornick-Football 9,10,11; Track 10,11,12; Video Yearbook 10; Creative Writing Club 11; Revue 11,12. Katherine Grimmett-Cross Country Manager 12; Track 11; Concert Choir 9; French Club 10,11,12; Creative Writing Club 11; Student Government 11,12; SADD 10,11.

Lee Grubbs, Nick Gruveksi, Jode Guistoli-Concert Choir 9, Natalie Haber, Heather Hall-Concert Choir 9; HERO 12; FEA 10.



Mark Hamilton-Basketball 10,11; Baseball 10,12. **Keesha Hardaway**-Track 10; Poms 12; Pep Club 12; Concert Band 9,10,11,12; Pep Band 9,10,11. **Adam B. Haro**-Revue 10. **Jeffrey Harpp**, **Ryan Harrington**-Cross Country 9,10,11,12; Swimming 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12; Cheerleader 12; German Club 10; Student Government 9,10; Class Officer 9.



Mindy Hefner-Powder Puff 11; Pep Club 11; Speech Team 11; National Forensics League 11. **Jerome Hegeduis**-Football 9,10; Baseball 9,10; German Club 10,11,12; JETS Club 12; SADD 12; IU Honors Program 12. **Jeff Heimann**, **Jennifer B. Heminger**-Basketball 9,10,11,12; Softball 9,10,11,12; Student Government 12; Quest 11. **Scott Hendrickson**-Football 9, Basketball 9.



Alan Charles Hepp-Cross Country 9,10,11,12; Swimming 10,11; Track 9,10,11,12; French Club 12; Quiz Bowl 12; Newspaper 11,12; Yearbook 11,12; Quill and Scroll 11,12; Honor Society 11,12; Student Government 12; Photographer 11,12; IU Honors Program 12; JETS Team 10,11,12. **Antwand Hickerson**, **Craig Hill**-Cross Country 9. **Jacque Holderman**-Swimming 11,12. **Heather Holland**-Concert Band 10; Pep Band 10,11,12; French Club 11,12; Quiz Bowl 11,12; Drama Club 11,12; Honor Society 11,12; Environmental Club 10; Symphonic Band 11,12.



Margaret Holland-Concert Band 11,12; Pep Band 10,11,12; French Club 10,11,12; Quiz Bowl 11,12; Drama Club 11,12; Honor Society 11,12; Environmental Club 10; Thebians 11,12; Fall Play 11. **Lynn Marie Holley**-Spanish Club 12; Yearbook 11,12; Powder Puff 12; Senior Commencement Planning Committee. **Fred Hong**-Games Club 12; Spanish Club 10,11,12; Drama Club 10,11,12; Speech Team 11,12; National Forensics League 11,12; Honor Society 9,11,12; Student Government 11,12; Environmental Club 10,11,12; SADD 10,11,12; Thebians 12; Fall Play 11; Spring Play 12. **Vincent Horbach**-Swimming 12; Track 12; Exchange Student 12. **David Hosfeld**.



Noelle Hosfeld-Volleyball 9,10; Softball 9,10,11,12; French Club 11; Honor Society 9. **Mark Hovanec**, **Jennifer Howell**-Newspaper 9,10,11; Creative Writing Club 9. **Marty Howland**, **Chris Hunke**.





Diane Jagiela-Cheerleader 9,10,11,12; Student Government 9,10,11,12; Student Advisory Council 10,11; SADD 11; FEA 10,11,12; Class Officer 10. **Jim Janickovic**, **Chris Janovska**-Football 9; Basketball 9; Baseball 9,10,11; FEA 10. **Mikikka Jefferson**-HERO 12; FEA 12. **Matt Johnson**-Swimming 10.



Nicole Marie Johnson-FHA 11. **Erin Jones**-Track 10,11,12; Cheerleader 9,10,11,12; Student Government 9,10,11,12; Officer; Student Advisory Council 10,11,12; SADD 10,11; Quest 10,11; FEA 10,11,12; Prom Court 11; Homecoming Court 10,11; Class Officer 10. **Kevin Jones**, **David Joseforsky**-Football 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9,10,11,12; Baseball 9,10,11,12; Newspaper 9; Honor Society 11,12; Prom Court 11. **Tracie Jurczak**.



Hope Anne Jusko-Softball 10,11,12; Cheerleader 9,10,11,12; Concert Choir 9,10; Vocalists 11,12; Honor Society 9,11,12; Student Government 10,11,12; Student Advisory Council 10,11; SADD 11; Quest 11; FEA 10,11,12; Prom Court 11; Homecoming Court 11,12; Class Officer 10. **Chris Karahalos**, **Dion Katsouras**-Football 9,10,11,12; Student Government 12. **Tracy L. Keneson**-Poms 9,10; Concert Choir 9. **Steven Kerr**.



Kara Kienzynski-Girls Choir 9; Quest 11. **Donovan Kimmel**, **Jeffrey Kijajich**-Newspaper 9. **Victoria Koby**-Girls Choir 9; HERO 12. **John T. Koritko**.



Smaro Koukoutsis-Honor Society 12. **Allison Krysa**-Softball 9,10,11,12; Pep Club 11,12; Spanish Club 11,12; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; Honor Society 9 Officer, 11,12; Officer; Student Government 12; FEA 11,12; Homecoming Court 12; Girls State Delegate 11; Powder Puff 10,11,12; Teacher Aide 11. **Michael P. LaRue**-Student Advisory Council 12. **Sam Lagalo**-Cross Country 11,12; Basketball 9; Baseball 9; Track 10; German Club 10,11; Quest 10. **Duane Lamb**.



Jamie Lashenik-Volleyball 9,10,11; Tennis 9,10,11,12; Poms 9,10,11; Concert Choir 9,11,12; Vocalists 11,12; Girls Choir 10; French Club 11,12; JETS Club 11; Creative Writing Club 11; Environmental Club 12; FEA 10,11,12. **Michelle D. Laspas**-Poms 10,11,12; German Club 10,11,12; Creative Writing Club 11; Speech Team 11,12; Student Government 11,12. **Priscilla Lau**-French Club 12. **Mark A. Laurel**-Swimming 10,11,12. **Staci Lavery**.

p reparing

for college

How are you getting ready for college?

Being a senior means preparing for college. This is what some of the seniors are doing to prepare for what lies ahead.

"By taking literature, getting good grades in school, and reading college material." Sean O'Donnell

"I haven't really done anything to get ready for college. I'm just sitting back

and taking it how it comes." Jeff Klich

"I'm trying to pay attention in class to prepare for the years to come in which I'll have no choice but to pay attention. Also by taking the worthless SAT's even though I've already been accepted." Jerry Hegeduis

"Well, since I've already been accepted to ISU it's kind of hard to do anything right now. I've filled out all

my forms and they've all been received. So right now I'm just trying to keep up my grades so they tell me to forget it. I'm trying to prepare financially by working and stocking up on the things I'll need for college." Mindy Hefner

"I have taken my SAT's and started to take visits to colleges that I might study and play softball." Jen Heminger
• by Lynn Holley

Getting the grades and scoring well on your SAT are important to get into a good college.

May Lee-Volleyball 9,10; Tennis 10,11,12; Games Club 11; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; French Club 10,11,12; Academic Decathlon 11,12; Quiz Bowl 11,12; Spell Bowl 10,11,12; Yearbook 9; Honor Society 9,11,12; Student Advisory Club 12; JETS Team 9,10,11,12. Sarah Leeper-Golf 10; Concert Choir 9; French Club 10; Speech Team 10; Honor Society 10,11,12; Key Club 10,11,12; Environmental Club 11,12; Student Advisory Council 10; SADD 10,11; Quest 10,11. James R. Lesniak-Concert Choir 9,10,11,12; Vocalists 9,10,11,12; French Club 10,11,12; Academic Decathlon 12; Quiz Bowl 12; Spell Bowl 11,12; Drama Club 12; Speech and Debate 11,12; National Forensics League 11,12; Honor Society 9,10,11,12. Kathleen Eva Leszczynski-Poms 9,10,11; Concert Band 9,10; Spanish Club 10; Honor Society 10,11,12; FEA 10; FHA 10; Symphonic Band 11; Powder Puff 10,11,12. Jennifer Marie Levenson.

Kimberly Ann Levitt-Softball 10; Track 10; Creative Writing Club 10; Debate Team 10. Christopher Lewis, Julie Liadakis, Wayne Edward Lite-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9; Baseball 9; Track 10,11,12; German Club 10; Debate Team 10; Student Government 10,11,12. Kevin Lohse-Football 9,10,11; Swimming 10; Basketball 9; Baseball 9.

Caleb Shawn Lollis-JETS Club 12; Honor Society 9,11,12; Key Club 10,11; Environmental Club 11; SADD 11,12; Quest 11. Shawn Longacre-Football 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9; Baseball 9,10,11,12. Suzanne M. Lopes-Flag Corps 12; Spanish Club 12; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; Drama Club 12; SADD 11. Gary Lucia-Cross Country 10,11,12; Swimming 9,10,11,12; Track 10,11,12; Concert Band 9,10,11; Pep Band 10,11; German Club 9,10,11,12; Academic Decathlon 12; Quiz Bowl 12; JETS Club 11,12; Student Government 10,11,12; Symphonic Band 10,11. Lisa Luebcke-Poms 9; Pep Club 11,12; Spanish Club 10,11,12; Honor Society 11; Environmental Club 11; Powder Puff 10,11,12.





Holly Luedtke-Flag Corps 12; Drama Club 12; Fall Play 12.
Lisa Luttinen-Sunshine Society 10,11; Speech Team 11;
Key Club 12; Quest 10,11; FHA 11. **Dennis Magniot**-
Concert Band 9,10; Pep Band 10. **Mike Maj**. **Jennifer**
Kristin Major-Poms 9; SADD 10; FHA 11.



Michelle Malocha-Pep Club 11; Environmental Club 11,12;
SADD 12; FHA 11. **Jim Maness**-Golf 12; Swimming 10,11,12;
Basketball 9, Baseball 9,10 Track 9; Newspaper 9. **Julie**
Mansell-Volleyball 9; Track 11; Sunshine Society 11,12.
Kassy McConnell-Powder Puff 11,12; Poms 9; Student Govern-
ment 11,12; SAC 11,12; FEA 10,11,12; Class Officer 11.
Amy McCoy-Speech 11; HERO 11,12.



Jennifer McDermott-Powder Puff 10,11,12; German Club
11; Yearbook 9; Creative Writing Club 11; Student Govern-
ment 11,12; Key Club 12; FEA 10,11,12; Revue 12. **Tania**
McDonald-Volleyball 9,10,11; Poms 9; German Club
10,11,12; Honor Society 9,11,12; Student Government
10,11,12; Environmental Club 10,11,12; IU Honors 11.
Belinda Marie Medelin-Volleyball 9; Softball 9,10,11,12;
Poms 12; Concert Choir 9,12; Vocalists 12; Girls Choir 10;
Spanish Club 1,12; Speech Team 11,12; National Forensics
League 11,12; SADD 11; FEA 11; Revue 11,12. **Cynthia**
Meeks-Swimming Diver 10; Spanish Club 12; Student Govern-
ment 10; Key Club 12. **Ruth Mendoza**.



Tohy Miles-Cross Country 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9; Track
9,10,11,12; FEA 10. **Grant E. Miller**-Football 9; Basketball
9; Baseball 9,10,11,12; German Club 10,11,12; Newspaper 9;
Yearbook 9; Class Officer 11. **Valerie Miller**-Track 10;
Concert Choir 9; Spanish Club 10,11,12; Yearbook 11,12;
Key Club 10,12; SADD 11,12. **Brian A. Minninger**-SADD
12. **John J. Mishorich**-Football 9,10,11,12; Basketball
9,10,11,12; Track 9,10; Student Government 12; Student
Advisory Council 12; M Club 9,10,11,12; Class Officer 12;
Revue 12.



Brian Moates-Cheerleader 12. **Allen Moody**. **Theresa**
Mosley-Spanish Club 11,12; SADD 11,12. **Christina**
Mosqueda. **Mitra A. Naumski**-Orchestra 9,10,11,12; Ger-
man Club 9,10; Yearbook 11; Honor Society 9.



Miguel Navarro-Football 9,10,11,12; Golf 10,11,12; Bas-
ketball 9,10; Baseball 9; Track 9; FEA 11,12; M Club 10,11,12;
Prom Court 11; Revue 12. **William Neumann**-Spanish Club
10,12; JETS Club 11,12; Honor Society 11,12; Environmen-
tal Club 11,12. **Tracy Niles**-German Club 9,10,11; Honor
Society 10,11,12. **Erin N. O'Deen**-Newspaper 9; Yearbook
11,12; Homecoming Court 12. **Sean O'Donnell**.

SENIORS O'Sullivan-Putnam

Colleen O'Sullivan-Newspaper 9; SADD 11; IU Honors Program 11,12. **Christine Onoff**-Basketball 9,10; Poms 9 (captain); Newspaper 9,10,11, Editor, 12; Quill and Scroll 10,11, President Newspaper, 12; Student Government 10,11,12; Student Advisory Council 10,12; Rethinking Committee 10; FEA 10,11,12. **Sara Ortegón**-Basketball 9; Poms 9; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; HERO 12; BPA 11; Powder Puff 10. **Jason Pahon**-Football 11,12. **Jeff Pabon**-Football 9,10,11.

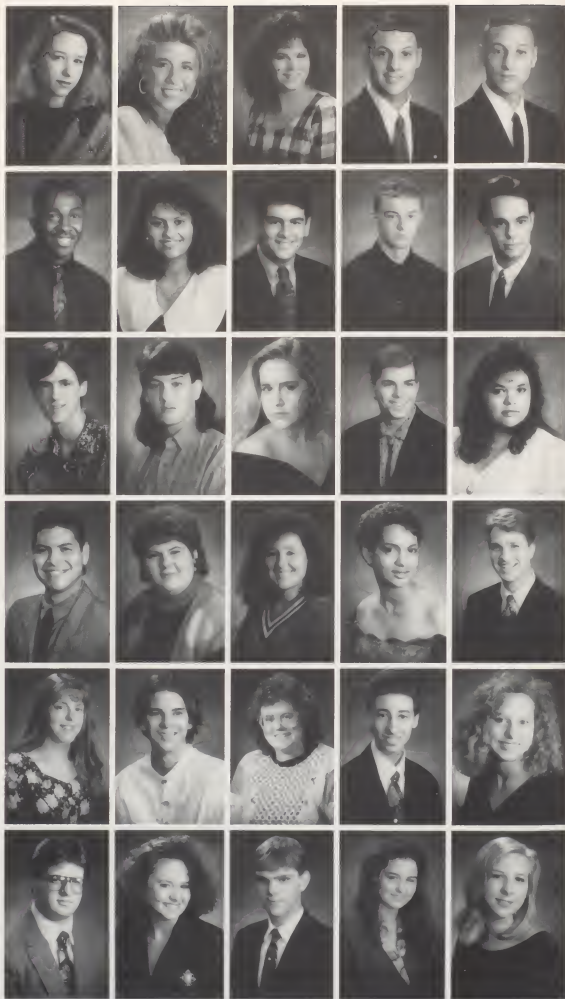
Michael Pace-Football 10,11,12; Wrestling 10,11,12; Track 10,11,12; M Club 9,10,11,12. **Angie Packowski**-Pep Club 11; Concert Choir 9; French Club 10,11,12; Newspaper 11; Student Government 10,11,12; FEA 10,11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12. **Anthony Pampalone**, **Robert Parker**, **Jason Parkis**-Football 9,10; Golf 9,10,11,12; Cheerleader 12; M Club 9,10.

Adam Parks-Swimming 10,11,12. **Brad Parks**-Football 9; Golf 9,10; Concert Band 9,10,11; Pep Band 10,11. **Christine Partas**-Poms 9,10,11,12; Concert Choir 9; FEA 10,11,12. **Brent Paul**, **Celina Aurora Paz**-Concert Choir 9,10,11,12; Girls Choir 10; Spanish Club 11,12; SADD 11,12; Quest 11.

Lenny Paz, **Liz Perosky**-Sunshine Society 11. **Stephanie Perryman**-Tennis 10,11,12; French Club 10,12; Newspaper 9; Environmental Club 12. **Lauren Peters**-Poms 9; Pep Club 9; Games Club 10; Concert Choir 9; Vocalists 10,11,12; Spanish Club 12; French Club 12; Debate Team 11; Student Government 12; MCATF 12; SADD 11; Revue 9,10,11,12. **Kevin Petrites**.

Kristina Phillips-Tennis 10,11,12; Poms 9; Yearbook 9; Honor Society 11,12; Environmental Club 12. **Timothy Pigott**, **Anne M. Piske**-Games Club 12; Orchestra 12. **Kelly Poholaraz**, **Linda Polomchak**-Basketball 9,10,11; Track 10,11,12; Poms 10; French Club 11,12; Honor Society 9,11,12; Student Government 11,12; Student Advisory Council 12; Class Officer 12.

Joseph Michael Popias V.-Golf 9,10,11,12; Concert Band 9,10,11. **Tracy Ann Powers**-SADD 11; FHA 10; Teachers Aide 11. **Terry Pruett**-Games Club 11. **Amber Nicole Pusateri**-Poms 9. **Kristy Putnam**-Basketball 9; Track 9; French Club 10; Yearbook 9; Drama Club 10,11; Honor Society 9, 11, 12; Student Government 9,10; Environmental Club 10, 11; SAC 10; Rethinking Committee 10; MCATF 11,12; SADD 10,11,12; Thespians 10, 11; Revue 9, 10.





Follow the leader.

Seniors Jeff Pabon and Jennifer Zirkel enjoy themselves at prom. After the prom itself, students head for Great America, Turkey Run, or any place that interests them making prom a total weekend event.

Having a good time.

Kevin Petrites, Zac Wells, Lisa Tresnowski, Jeff Craig, Buddy Wenger, and Mike Navarro, seniors on abench by the newly carpeted lobby area outside of the cafeteria. It was a convenient place to chat with friends between classes.



Michael Rapchak. Kristopher Reed. Crystal Releford-Basketball 9; Track 12; Pep Club 11,12; Student Government 12; MCATF 12; SADD 12; FEA 10,11,12. **Jennifer M. Renehan.** Kimberly A. Richardson-Sunshine Society 10,11; French Club 10,11,12; Yearbook 9,11,12; Quill and Scroll 12; Drama club 10,11; Honor Society 9,11,12; Student Government 11,12; Student Advisory Council 11; Rethinking Committee 11; MCATF 11,12; SADD 11; Quest 11; Thesians 10,11; Revue 9,10,11; Fall Play 10; Spring Play 9,10.

Lisa Riffle. Angi Roberts. Tamara Noelle Robinson-Tennis 12; Basketball 9,10; Track 9,10,11; Poms 10; Concert Band 9; Pep Band 10,11,12; French Club 10,11,12; Academic Decathlon 12; JETS Club 12; Creative Writing Club 11; Honor Society 11,12; Student Government 9,10,11,12; Student Advisory Council 11,12; Rethinking Committee 11,12; MCATF 11,12; SADD 10,11,12; FEA 10,11,12; Symphonic Band 10,11,12; Class Officer 11; Revue 11,12. **Michael Rodriguez.** Christine Romans.

Rosa Roman-Key Club 12. **Michael Rosiak.** Dena Roy-Poms 9; Cheerleader 10; Pep Club 10; Concert Choir 9; Vocalists 11; Girls Choir 10; German Club 9,10; Revue 12. **Steve J. Rulsard.** Kari Runholt-Volleyball 9; Swimming 10; Sunshine Society 10; Concert Choir 9; Girls Choir 10; German Club 10; FEA 10; IU Honors Program 11,12.

Greg Runions. Joel Santeramo.

Byran A. Schulte-Track 10. Krissy Scott-Volleyball 9.

Rochelle Shelby-Track 10,11,12; Quest 12; Class Officer 12.
Lafayette T. Shorter-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 10;
Track 9,10,12.

Cheryl Smith-Softball 9,10,11,12. Erik J. Smith-Basketball
9,10,11,12; Concert Band 9,10,11,12; Pep Band 10,11; JETS
Club 10; Honor Society 9; Student Government 10,11,12;
Symphonic Band 10,11; JETS Team 10.

Stacy Stanchina-Sunshine Society 10; SADD 10; Quest 10.
Charles Stapinski-Football 9,10; Swimming 11; Wrestling
9,10; Baseball 9; Cheerleader 12; Concert Choir 9; Vocalists
10,11,12; German Club 9,10,11,12; Speech Team 12; Honor
Society 9,10,11,12; Student Government 10,11,12;
Environmental Club 12; IU Honors Program 11; JETS Team
10,11.

Mike Stewart-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 10; Track
10,11,12; M Club 10,11,12. Heather Stompopor-Cheerleader
9,10,11,12; French Club 10,11,12; Honor Society 9; Student
Government 10.

Anticipating

the future

What will you be doing in 10 years?
As the antispation of graduation comes closer
and closer everyday, our seniors make plans for
the future.

"I'll be married to a rich old man with a bad heart.
So, I'll be waiting for the inheritance check."
Jode Guistolis

"I will be serving my country in the United States
Navy" Larry Gazafy

"In 10 years I'll be working in a hospital with
patience and married." Tasha Johnson

"Hopefully I'll have a good job making good
money, married happily to my lover boy, and still
having FUN!!!" Michelle Baucom

"I will win the lottery, move to some tropical
island basking in the sun during the day and
party at night." Blaguna Dorecki

"Hopefully I'll be working with children in a Day
Care Center of my own. I also hope I'll be
married with 2 children." Danie Jo Wengel

"Probably still in college changing my major
every 10 minutes." Heather Holland

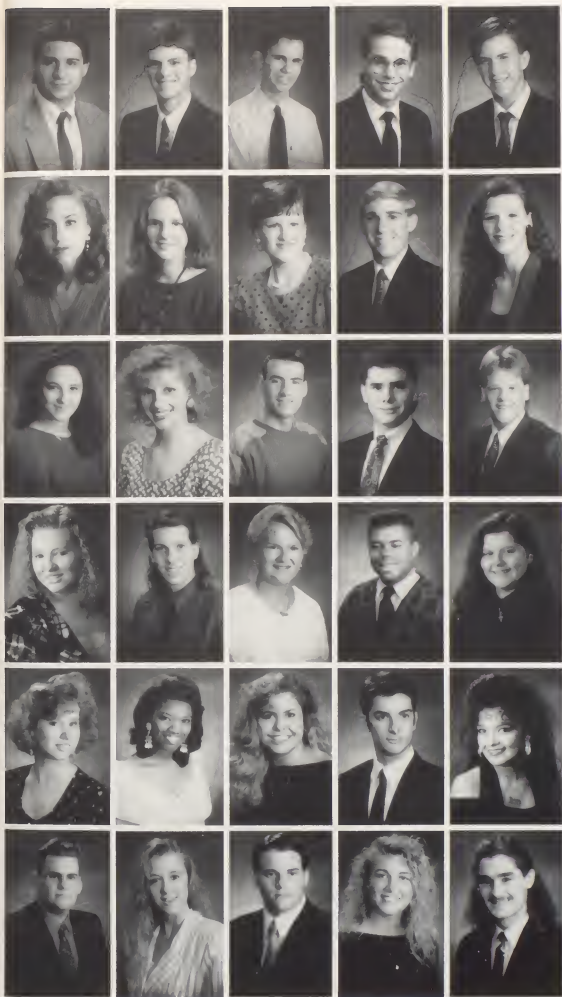
"I will be out on the field as an electrician." Jason
Hazi

"I will be an electronic technition." Craig Hill

"I'll either be really successful or I'll be a bum
following some crazy band, living off of the land
and surviving from the money I receive from
collecting and recycling cans from the beach."
Jacque Holderman

"I will be working for the FBI and tracking down
all my fellow classmates that have broken any
federal laws." Margaret Holland





Richard A. Sargent-Swimming 9,10,11,12. **Joshua D. Schaefer**-Football 9; Cross Country 10,11,12; Basketball 9; Track 9,10,11,12; M Club 9,10. **Ryan Ian Schafer**-Track 9; Yearbook 11,12; Student Government 9,10,11,12; Class Officer 12. **Lawrence Schiefer**-Football 9,10,11,12; Swimming 10,11,12; Track 10,11,12; JETS Club 12; JETS Team 12. **John Schoop**-Golf 10,11,12; Honor Society 9.

Kate Sczurko-Tennis 9; Honor Society 11,12. **Jill Seale**-Key Club 11,12; Environmental Club 10,11,12. **April Selagy**-Sunshine Society 12; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; Honor Society 11,12. **Robert Self**-Football 9; Baseball 10; JETS Club 11,12; Honor Society 9,10,11,12; FEA 10,11; M Club 10. **Brooke R. Seydel**-Cheerleader 9; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; FEA 10,11.

Candice Shultz-Poms 9; Pep Club 12; German Club 9,10,11,12; Honor Society 11,12; Environmental Club 12; Powder Puff 10,11,12; FEA 11. **Tina M. Sikora**-Golf 10; Basketball 9,10; Track 10,11,12; Poms 9; Pep Club 11; Spanish Club 11; Speech Team 11; Honor Society 11,12; Student Government 11,12; Powder Puff 10,11,12; SADD 11; FEA 11,12. **John Skrundz**-Basketball 9,10,11,12; Track 10,12. **Scott Slys**-Football 9,10,11; Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; FEA 10. **Bryan Smiley**-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 10.

Kim Smith-Powder Puff 10,11; Newspaper 9. **Paul Smith**, **Tracy Sparks**-Powder Puff 11; Swimming 12; HERO 12. **Sean Michael Spinks**-Student Government 11,12. **Jerri Stamate**-Powder Puff 12; Student Government 12.

Kami Steeb-Flag Corps 10,11,12; Concert Band 9; Pep Band 10,11,12; Symphonic Band 10,11,12. **LaDonna Steele**, **Jenny Stefankiewicz**-Swimming 9,10; Sunshine Society 10; Concert Choir 10; Girls Choir 9; Drama Club 11; SADD 11; Quest 11; Thesbian 11. **Vladimir Stevanovic**-Football 9,10,11; Soccer 10; Student Government 11,12; Revue 11,12. **Ausencia Stewart**.

Jesse Stoner-Games Club 11; Pep Band 12; Drama Club 10,11,12; Speech Team 11,12; SADD 10,11,12; Thesbian 10,11,12; Revue 10,11,12; Fall Play 10; Spring Play 11. **Melinda Strong**-HERO 12; FHA 11. **Mike Sullivan**, **Holly Summers**, **Dan Suvajac**.

SENIORS Swanke-Watkins

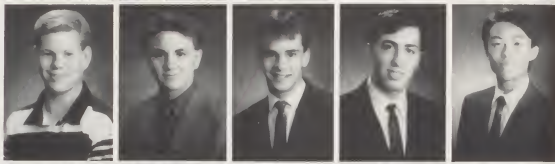
Wendy M. Swanke-Basketball 10; Poms 9; Sunshine Society 11,12; SADD 10,11,12; Quest 11. **John Jack Tabor**-Golf 9; Wrestling 9,10,11,12. **Robert Talley**, **Darnell Taylor**, **Gregory A. Thiros**-Football 9,10,11,12; Track 10; Honor Society 11; Student Government 10,11,12.



Nita Toledo-Cross Country 10,11,12; Volleyball 9; Gymnastics 9; Track 9,10,11,12; Poms 9; Sunshine Society 11,12; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; French Club 11; Honor Society 9; FEA 10,11; M Club 10. **Kathy Torres**-Cross Country 11; Spanish Club 11,12; SADD 11,12; Revue 11,12. **Ryan Torres**, **Maria Patricia Traficante**-Swimming 11; Gymnastics 9; Poms 10,11,12; Spanish Club 10; FEA 10; FHA 10. **Lisa Ann Tresnowski**-Basketball 9,10; Softball 9,10,11,12; Poms 12; Cheerleader 9; Concert Choir 9; Newspaper 11; FEA 11,12.



Tom Tripp-Football 9; Golf 10; Concert Band 9; JETS Club 12. **Trey M. Tristain**-Drama Club 10,11,12; Thebian 10,11,12; Revue 10; Fall Play 10,11; Spring Play 10,11. **Jeff Trivette**-Football 12; Basketball 9; Baseball 9,10,11,12; Honor Society 11,12. **Ted Tsagris**-Tennis 9,10,11; Basketball 9; Soccer 10; JETS Club 10,11. **Patrick Louis Tsai**-Tennis 10,11,12; Games Club 11,12; Orchestra 9,10,11,12; German Club 9,10,11,12; Academic Decathlon 11,12; Quiz Bowl 10,11,12; Spell Bowl 9,10,11,12; JETS Club 11,12; Speech Team 12; Debate Team 11; NFL 11,12; Honor Society 11,12; Academic Super Bowl 9,10,11,12; MCATF 12; SADD 12; IU Honors 11; JETS Team 10,11,12.



Brett Tubbs-Basketball 9,10,11,12. **Lisa Turley**-Newspaper 9; Yearbook 9; Honor Society 11. **Maria Trykos**-Poms 9,10,11,12; Concert Choir 9; French Club 10,11,12; Student Government 12; FEA 11,12; Prom Court 11. **Santiago Gil Vaca**-Tennis 9,10,11,12; Soccer 9,10,11,12; Concert Band 9; Pep Band 9. **Michelle Vagus**.



Michael Valenti-Tennis 10; Concert Choir 9; French Club 10,11,12; Student Government 12; FEA 10,11,12. **Derek Van Til**, **Jehremy W. Vargus**-Games Club 9,11,12; Drama Club 12; Honor Society 9,11,12; Fall Play 12; Spring Play 11,12. **Bill Vasiliopoulos**-Tennis 9,10,11; Basketball 9; Soccer 10; Orchestra 9; German Club 9,10; Student Government 12; Key Club 10; FEA 12; Revue 11,12. **George T. Vasiliopoulos**-Tennis 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9; Concert Choir 9,10,11; Vocalists 11; French Club 10,11; Yearbook 12; Student Government 10,11,12; Key Club 10; Quest 12; FEA 10,11,12; M Club 10; Revue 11.



Jennifer Verbik-Poms 9; Cheerleader 10; Concert Choir 9,10,11,12; Vocalists 11,12; Drama Club 10,11,12; FHA 11,12; BPA 11,12; Revue 11,12; Fall Play 11,12; Spring Play 11,12. **Tiffany Vivo**-Poms 11,12; Cheerleader 9; Pep Club 11; Concert Choir 9; Spanish Club 11; Speech Team 10,11,12; National Forensics League 10,11,12; Student Government 11,12. **John Vlahos**-Tennis 9,11,12; Basketball 9; Soccer 10,11,12; Concert Choir 9; JETS Club 12; Student Government 12; FEA 11,12; M Club 10. **Matthew Walla-Football** 9,10,11; Baseball 9,10; Spanish Club 11,12; Honor Society 9,10,11,12; Revue 11,12. **Lonisha A. Watkins**-Soccer 12; FHA 12.





Robert Watson-Football 11,12; Soccer 12; Fall Play 9.
Melissa Webster, Scott Webster-Football 9,12; Golf 11,12;
 Basketball 9,10; Baseball 9,10; German Club 9,10. **Dallas Wells**-Football 9,12; Golf 12; Wrestling 12; Gymnastics 9,10,11,12; Baseball 12; Track 12; Soccer 9,10,11,12; Cheerleader 12; JETS Club 12; Honor Society 11,12; Student Government 10,11,12; Environmental Club 10,11,12; SADD 11,12. **Scott Weliczko**-FHA 11,12.



Zachary Wells-Football 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9,10,11,12; Baseball 9,10,11,12; German Club 9,10; Yearbook 11,12.
Danic Jo Wenegal, Bud Wenger-Football 9,10; Cheerleader 12. **Heather Wesley**-Gymnastics 9,12; Track 9; Soccer 12; Poms 9,12. **Lisa M. Whittemore**-Volleyball 9; Tennis 10; Soccer 12; Flag Corps 10,11,12; Concert Band 9; Pep Band 10,11,12; Orchestra 12; Drama Club 12; Honor Society 9; FEA 10,11; Thesbian 12; Symphonic Band 10,11,12; Fall Play 12, Spring Play 11.



Richard Wignall-Football 9. **Jamel Williams, Kody Williams**-Football 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10. **James Wirtle, Jason Wojciechowski**-Football 9,10,11,12; Wrestling 9,10; Track 9,10,11; German Club 10,11,12; JETS Club 12.



Wendy Woodburn-Tennis 9,10; Concert Band 9,10,11,12; Pep Band 9,10,11; French Club 10; Symphonic Band 9,10,11,12; Fall Play 12. **Scott Wotell, Harry L. Zairis**-Cross Country 9; Swimming 9,10; Track 9; Soccer 11,12; Concert Band 9,10. **Melissa Zorich**-Newspaper 9; Quest 10; HERO 12.

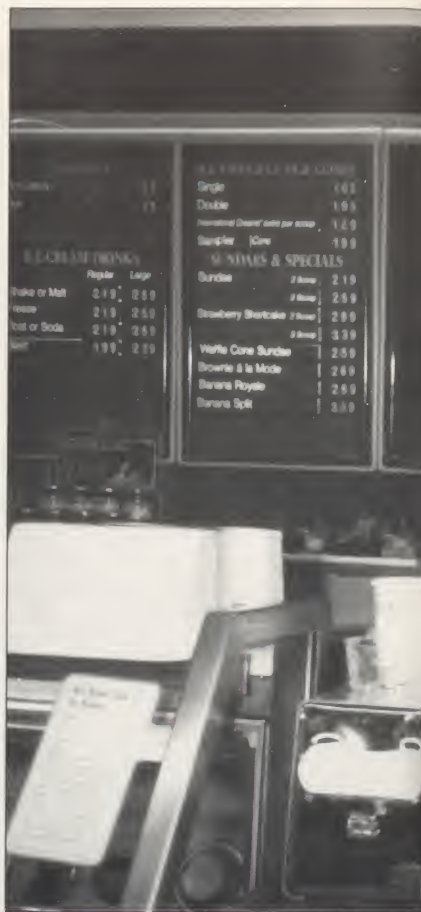


Time to take it easy.
 Seniors relax on the stage at the Radisson Star Theater after graduation as they wait for the crowd to clear. With the hard part over, they can pick up their diplomas in the Guidance Office in the morning.

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The relationship between Merrillville High School and the community is *more than just business*. With the support of the community, *Merrillvue* is able to publish a yearbook which will provide memories for the the student body for many years to come. *More than just business*, the yearbook staffers learn valuable skills which they will use when they enter the business community.

May I help you?
Sophomore, John Shores works at his grandmother's Baskin Robbins. Many MHS students work so that they can afford the extras things they want.



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Chocolate Mousse Royale
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Winter White Chocolate
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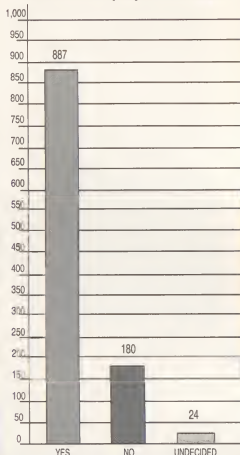
Go Pirates!



"Sometimes there's
racial prejudice at MHS,
not just whites against
blacks, but also blacks
against whites. I really
don't see why color
matters so much. Who
cares if a person is
black, white, or purple.
Color shouldn't matter."

Vicki Koby, senior

Is there racial prejudice at MHS?



"There is racial prejudice in our school, but if people want to stop it, they need to stop it in society. As long as it is out there it will be here. Racial prejudice is a defect in our society that no one can stop alone or at just one place. Everyone must work together to stop it everywhere."

Keith Lester, junior

"There are gangs and gang members who attend Merrillville, but there is no visible problem with violence yet."
Anthony Bridges, junior

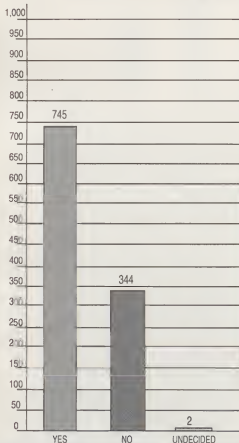
"There are many gangs but I don't think there's a gang problem. There is a lot of 'wanna be's' that cause trouble at the high school."

Tina Todoroska,
sophomore

"Yes, there are gangs in Merrillville, but there's not a major problem concerning their movement. What I mean is that there really isn't any gang violence just a problem."

Darnieshia Henderson,
sophomore

Are there gangs and do you feel there is a gang problem at MHS?



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our love we send.

*Love,
Mom, Dad
and Chrissy*

Mario,
"O wonderful son,
that can so astonish a mother!"

Shakespeare

*Love always,
Mom*



Mario,
"The Magic Mirror
of My Dreams."

Crizce

*Eternal Love,
Grandmother and D.H.*

ADAM DID IT.



Here's to you and
your successful future!

*With much love & pride,
Mom and "Daddio"*

Congratulations, Kassy



Have a great time
at B.S.U.

*Love,
Mom, Mike, & Randi*

To our "Sadie Baby"



**With all Our Love,
Mom and Dad**

**"You've never
let us down."**



Congratulations, Mr. Putt-putt, Bob Showalter



You did it! You accomplished your lifetime goal of co-owning your own Putt-putt golf course. We are proud of you. You touched our lives as our substitute teacher and gave us Putt-putt golf.

Thank you,
MHS students



"I do believe in capital punishment. Why should taxpayers pay for inmates on death row?"

Jason Bontrager,
senior

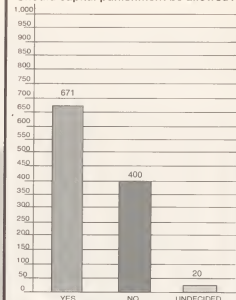
"People like Jeffrey Daumer should get capital punishment."

Yolanda Brown,
sophomore

"People who kill should be killed. When they aren't killed, they get life sentences, and they just take up space.

Keith Lester, junior

Should capital punishment be allowed?



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Lisa Marie



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Mom, Dad,
Donnie & Baillie*

In work, do what you enjoy.
Remember to always be yourself.
We love you for who you are!



Best wishes for the future.
*Love,
Mom and Dad*

***Congratulations
Christine,***



We're proud of our "little" girl
and her success in high school.

**Congratulations,
Steph**



We're proud of you and
your accomplishments

*Love,
Mom and Dad*

Sean,
Congratulations to the
BABY of the family!



*Love,
From All of Us*

Congratulations Aisha,



Hold on to your dreams,
Make your wish come real,
Strive for the best.
Good luck with the real world!

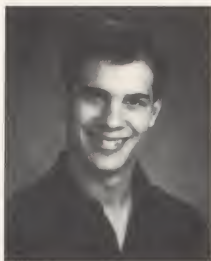
*Love,
Dad and Mom*



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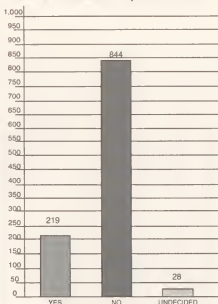


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Is sexual harassment a problem at MHS?



"I have never heard or seen anything that would make me believe there is a problem with sexual harassment at MHS."

Mike Harney,
junior

"No, I don't think sexual harassment is a problem at MHS."

Cyndi Meeks, senior

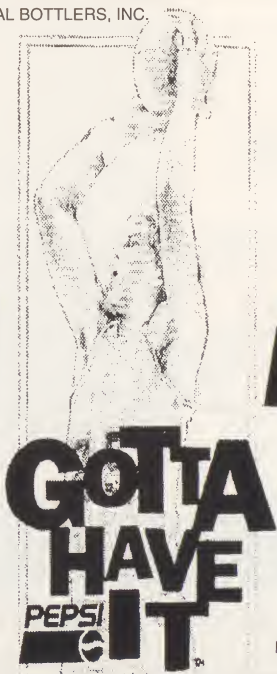
"Yes, sexual harassment is a problem anywhere and

everywhere. If you say, 'You're pretty sexy,' that's harassment. It's a problem verbally, but I don't think so physically."

Mike Sullivan,
senior

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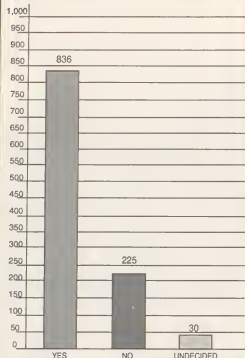
**DIET
PEPSI**



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Should kids with AIDS be allowed to attend school?



"Yes, I believe they should be allowed to attend school. There are many precautions that we know will help prevent the spread of this disease. These students cannot have their right to an education taken from them because of their unfortunate situation."

Maryanne Battistini,
guidance counselor

There is a secret for achieving any goal you hope to win;
There is a secret for not quitting when your path becomes unsure.
The secret of fulfilling any dream you may pursue is looking in your heart
To find the courage to be you!



Dear Kim,
Your drive, spirit, and independent nature will carry you to great heights. Trust yourself and you will aspire to any dream.

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Kimberly Ann Richardson

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1993 Merrillville Staff

Row 1: Zac Wells.
Row 2: Tom Gayda,
Jean Stanford, Erin
O'Deen, Ryan Schafer,
Jason Kissinger. Row 3:
Kim Richardson, Lynn
Holley, George
Vasilopoulos, Alan Hepp.
Not Pictured: Valerie
Miller.

We started the year off with a small inexperienced staff, a new adviser, erratic computers, and many memories from last year still lingering around. Even with all of this in the back of our minds we tried to come up with a theme. It took us three weeks but we finally did it. We played with many different ideas each time trying to play with the words to fit our school. We decided on the theme *Now More Than Ever*.

The day after we decided our theme Mrs. Stanford and I were off to design our cover. I didn't have any ideas in my head. The theme was still to new to me. We were the first school to sit down with the artist. Some how by the stroke of a miracle we came up with the scaffolding design. Lucy, I thank you so much for our cover and end sheets although we didn't use "the random funky X's."

A gigantic thank you goes out to our rep, Valerie Tanke. Although I slept all the way there and all the way back on our trip I will always remember it. Especially the stop in Hannibal, Missouri with all the little craft shops. But the most memorable part of the trip was finding a restaurant. I think I got dizzy getting on and off the highway so many times.

From one Larry Bird fan to another, thanks to Mary Jane Dennis. You made our trip to the plant a wonderful occasion with your kindness and hospitality.

I don't know what we would have done without Giolas Photographers. Thank you for the last minute color prints and for all the occasions you shot photos for us. John Bir, thank you for putting up with my crazy group photo schedule. Each day I had a change for you and you always were willing to accommodate. Thanks also goes to Kim Kim for spending a day at MHS taking photos. You helped out so much. Also, thanks to Halterman Studios for underclass services. When we were in a jam you accommodated us. Thanks.

Extra thanks goes to John Seale and Ray Mixell, without your help with the computers we might not have a yearbook right now. You always answered our questions and fixed our keyboards and non-working disks. Also, thank you to Dave Teeler for just putting up with us and for the paper and supplies. Thanks go out to the Athletic Department for letting us borrow toner. Also, we would not have a sports section without your help.

Thanks to Christine Onoff we were able to finance our book. Thank you, Christine for selling so many ads. I guess you are just a natural at it. Good luck. Much of the newspaper staff deserve thank you for just helping out when we need them.

Special thanks to Jean Stanford. Mrs. Stanford came in here this year not knowing what to expect and took a go at it. We started the year with eight seniors on staff with hardly any knowledge of yearbooking. She molded us into a staff which is what we needed. Of course, we have had our problems this year but what staff doesn't.

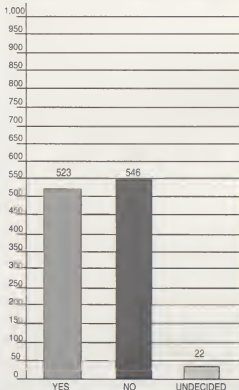
I have a special thank you to give, thanks, Tom. I conned you into coming on staff. Now I give you all the dirty work and even abuse you. V for violence, isn't that how it goes. Good luck next year with your yearbook. I know it will be great. Just get some of those junior high ideas out of your head.

If there is anyone I forgot I apologize and say thank you. Everyone has been so wonderful to us this year.

"Automatic weapons should be banned. I believe this would lower the rate of people getting killed senselessly and people getting hurt because of ignorance on how to use a weapon."

**Sam Lagalo,
senior**

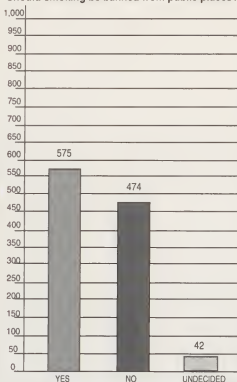
Should automatic weapons be banned from the United States?



"Smoking is bad for everyone else."

- Rob Moore,

Should smoking be banned from public places?



"Smoking should be banned in public places. Second hand smoke is harmful. People are allergic to it."

-Nan Malerich,
sophomore

"No, smoking should not be banned in public. I t's a person's choice if they want to smoke or not, but not in public."

- Chris Rhoda,
junior

Senior

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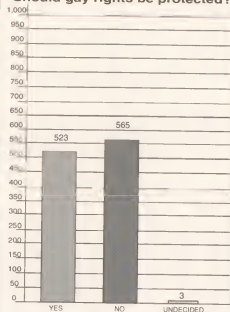


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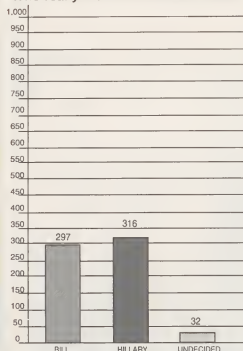
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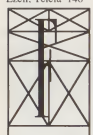


Sharing last moments together. Aisha Anderson and a friend embrace and wish each other good luck. Graduation was held at the Radisson again this year.

Meeting in the hall. Shannon Mason, junior, and Mike Stewart, senior, slip out of class for a few moments alone during a busy day.

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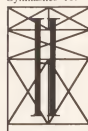
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Cutting up!

Dissecting frogs is a vital part of biology class. Belinda Krcoski, freshman, and Sara Kendrick, sophomore, carefully handle the scapel and scissors.



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Working hard.
Christie Robelia, junior makes good use of the time allowed in class to get her homework done. Many students prefer to get things done so that they have their evenings free for fun things.



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*Certain people touch our lives
in a very special way. Though
the time we had together was too
short, we will remember the
happy times we spent with you.*

**John Krysa
Kim Patterson
Jeremy Sanders**



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Getting organized
 Brad Garity, junior, takes a few moments before to school to prepre for the day's classes. The commons area is a favorite place for students before school.



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Taking a break.
Lunch time provides a welcome break from the time spent in class. It is a time when friends can catch up on the latest gossip or finish their homework.

Games people play.
The games we play tell a lot about us and our society as the students in Kristi Corsaro's class find out. They are required to invent a game which the class later plays.



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COLOPHON

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MORE

Than ever before

As the school year draws to an end, we look back to see what made this year special. *More* new people *than ever before* came together and forged bonds of friendship. It looked like the building was finally going to be finished - but it wasn't. Yet *more than ever before* we were able to enjoy the new wonders that the building program held. Although the senior class won't be around when the school is finally finished, they too have *more than ever before* to look forward to as they face a bright future.





Signing in
Students check in at the door with
Dr. Eleanor Lewis, prom sponsor,
while Mrs. Maryanne Battistini
hands out prom favors. This year's
prom was held at the Radisson
Hotel.

When will I see you again!
Seniors congratulate each other
after their graduation ceremony
held at the Radisson Star Plaza.
The bittersweet event means that
friends may not see each other for
quite a while.

Ready to go home
A student waits inside the door
for her ride home from school.
It was a rainy spring but
students still caught spring
fever as the number of days of
school left grew smaller.



MORE THAN EVER BEFORE



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